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FARR'S

FAMILY PRAYERS

SIGILLVM ACADEMIÆ HARVARDIANÆ IN NOV. ANG.
CHRISTO ET ECCLESIÆ
THE GIFT OF
JAMES WALKER,
(Class of 1814.)
LATELY PRESIDENT OF
HARVARD COLLEGE.
Received 31 Jan. 1860.

FORMS

OF

MORNING AND EVENING PRAYER,

COMPOSED FOR

THE USE OF FAMILIES.

By JONATHAN FARR.

BOSTON:
JAMES MUNROE AND COMPANY.
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TO HEADS OF FAMILIES.

THIS volume is put into your hands to encourage and assist you in the performance of a very much neglected, but a very important duty — the duty of worshipping God in your families.

When I have shared in the bounty of your table, you have requested me to say grace before and after meat. When I have spent the night at your house, before we have retired to rest, you have called your family together, brought me the Bible, and asked me to read and pray; and in the morning you have done the same.

Such signs of regard for the ministerial office, and of reverence for, and interestedness in religion, I am always glad to witness. But the question arises in my mind, on such occasions: — Are these services performed when no clergyman is present? Do *you*, before sitting down to eat,

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really your spiritual condition, my friend? And are you resting satisfied with it? O let me exhort and urge you to repent and turn to God; and may your house soon become a Bethel, and your heart a dwelling-place of the holy spirit, and your family one of those families that call on the name of the Lord!

Harvard, May 14, 1836.

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FAMILY PRAYERS.

SUNDAY MORNING.

This is the day the Lord hath made,
He calls the hours his own;
Let heaven rejoice, let earth be glad,
And praise surround thy throne.

ETERNAL and adorable Father! We worship thee, as the God of nature and the God of grace. Blessed be thy name, that we are favored with the light, the comforts, and privileges of another sacred morning. Through Jesus Christ, who is the true and living way, would we lift up our souls to thee in prayer and praise. We thank thee for the continuance of life and health. To whom should we devote ourselves, but to

thee, our Creator and Preserver? Lord, lift upon us the light of thy countenance, and be merciful unto us.

May this be a holy, a good, and a profitable day to our souls. May we on this day, which reminds us of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, call to grateful remembrance the peculiar blessings we enjoy. May each one of us account it a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptation, that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.

May we dismiss our worldly cares and thoughts, and spend this hallowed time in self-examination, in penitence, in prayer and praise. May we read thy holy word, and meditate on thy truth, and increase in self-knowledge, in virtue, and holiness. May those of us, who have owned Christ, adorn a profession of godliness. May those of us, who are still delaying our repentance, be persuaded to delay no longer.

If we are permitted to visit thy temple, may we do it with earnest desires to worship thee acceptably, and to receive thy

truth in the love of it. Direct and bless thy ministering servant, who shall guide our devotions and invoke thy blessing upon us. May our hearts be engaged in the services of thy house, and may our souls be nourished by the bread of life. Save us from wandering thoughts, and from distraction of mind.

Wilt thou bless all the churches of our Lord and Saviour. Build them up in the faith and order of the gospel, and water them with the dews of thy heavenly grace. May all who profess and call themselves Christians hold that faith once delivered to the saints in unity of spirit, in the bonds of peace, and in righteousness of life. Hear the prayers, accept the praises, which shall be offered thee this day by all worshipping assemblies. May thy word be spoken faithfully, and may it exert its proper influences on those who hear it.

May the righteous hold on their way; may backsliders be reclaimed; may gainsayers be convinced; and may sinners turn and live. Encourage the desponding; con-

firm the wavering; relieve the anxious; direct the inquiring; give joy to the mourner, and a well-grounded hope to the dying.

Wilt thou be with all those who are in heathen lands, publishing the glad tidings of salvation. Graciously guard, direct, and prosper them in their efforts; and give to them many converted souls as seals of their ministry, and as crowns of their rejoicing in the day of the Lord Jesus. O may the time come, when all people shall hear the joyful sound of the gospel, and live.

Bless all literary, religious, and charitable institutions. May they all tend to the diffusion of knowledge, piety, and happiness. Bless our rulers, and endue them with that wisdom which shall qualify them for their stations.

Bless the cause of peace and freedom. O may wars and fightings cease, and rumors of wars be heard no more. May slavery and oppression be done away; and may the Prince of Peace reign king of nations, as well as king of saints.

Bring us to the close of this day in possession of that peace which the world cannot give, and prepare us for an entrance into that rest which remaineth for the people of God. We offer our prayer to thee, O Father, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

SUNDAY EVENING.

It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High; to show forth thy loving-kindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night.

Our Father who art in heaven, thou inhabitest eternity; thou art God alone. Thou art worthy to receive homage and praise from all creatures. O teach us to believe in thine existence, to admire thy works, to reverence thy name, and to be submissive and conformed to thy will.

We thank thee that we have had our birth in a Christian land, where we enjoy so many advantages for the culture of our minds and hearts, and for obtaining a knowledge of our duty and destination. We thank thee for that transcendent love which thou hast manifested to the world, in the promise, the advent, the labors, and sufferings of thy Son, our Saviour. Thanks be to thy name for this thy unspeakable gift.

We bless thee for the privileges and mercies of this day. If we have received any good impressions, may they be lasting; if we have formed any holy resolutions, may they be carried into practice; if we have heard any truth, may it have a sanctifying influence; if we have exercised any true repentance, may we bring forth its proper fruits. And if any of us have misemployed this precious season, O wilt thou pardon us. Wilt thou follow with a divine blessing the instructions and services of this day. Bless the religious society with which we are connected, and him who ministers to us in holy things.

We pray for those who are destitute of the advantages we enjoy. Wilt thou remove every hindrance to the progress of divine light. Look with pity upon those who are darkened by ignorance, deluded by error, and enslaved by superstition and sin. Illumine their minds with gospel light; sanctify their hearts by thy spirit; and save their souls by thy grace in Christ Jesus.

O thou, who hast made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on the face of all the earth, wilt thou listen to the cries of those in captivity, and slavery, and mercifully appear for their relief. May the galling yoke be removed from their necks, the rod of the oppressor be broken, and the oppressed go free.

May we now go to our rest in peace and charity with all mankind. Wilt thou watch around us, and give us quiet sleep in its season; and if our life is prolonged may it be devoted to thee.

Hear and accept us, O God, in our prayer, through Jesus Christ the righteous. Amen.

MONDAY MORNING.

God is a spirit; and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

ALMIGHTY Father, whenever we attempt to worship thee, may we have such views of thy character as will lead us to worship thee in spirit and in truth. Whenever we pray to thee, may we have a just sense of our condition and wants; and wilt thou, who hearest prayer, through thy mercy in Christ, hear us, and grant us such things as we stand in need of.

We thank thee, O God, for the returning light, for our awakened powers and faculties, for our continued comforts, and for this opportunity of assembling as a family to read thy holy word and to seek thy face by united supplications. May we treasure up thy word in our hearts, and practise according to it in our lives. May we remember that much will be required of those to

whom much is given. May we walk as children of the light and of the day, and have no fellowship with the works of darkness. Take possession of each of our hearts. Dwell in us by thy spirit. Aid us by thy grace.

Give us day by day our daily bread. May we learn to be contented with all thine allotments, and resigned under all thy dealings towards us. May we be diligent and faithful in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord. May we waste none of our time, nor pervert our talents, nor abuse the advantages and blessings with which we are favored. If our goods increase, suffer us not to set our hearts upon them; but may we be full of good works, and beware of covetousness. If we are poor and unfortunate, save us from repining, and dispose us to trust in thee who hearest the young ravens when they cry, and feedest all the fowls of the air.

May we now go forth to our labor till the evening; and wilt thou grant a divine blessing on all our endeavours to know and do thy will.

Regard with mercy all our neighbours, relatives, and friends. Are any of them in trouble, grant them relief; are they in error, show them thy truth; are they living in sin; give them the grace of repentance.

We would at all times feel interested in the prosperity of religion, and in the moral welfare of our fellow-beings. O may divine truth gain ground, and prevail, and triumph, till ignorance, superstition, error, and idolatry shall be done away; till the wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad, and the desert rejoice and blossom.

We commend those in authority over us to thy protection, guidance, and blessing. Grant us peace in our borders, health in our habitations; and make us that happy people whose God is Jehovah. For thy mercy's sake, O Lord, hear us through Jesus Christ, to whom be thanksgiving and praise forever. Amen.

MONDAY EVENING.

When the morning paints the skies,
When the stars of evening rise,
We thy praises will record,
Sovereign Ruler, mighty Lord.

ETERNAL, omniscient, and omnipresent God, whose we are by creation and preservation, and to whom we are accountable for all our thoughts, words, and actions, day unto day uttereth speech, night unto night showeth knowledge of thee. Thine is the world in which we live, the air which we breathe, the sun which gives us light by day, the moon and stars which give us light by night. To thee we are indebted for the food which nourishes us, for the raiment we wear, and for the habitations which shelter us. Thine arm, though unseen, upholds us; thy hand, though invisible, guides us. On thy care we were cast in our earliest moments, and thou hast never ceased to care for us. We are monu-

ments of thy wisdom, thy goodness, and mercy. O let us never forget thee. Let us never grow weary with thy service. In the remembrance of thy continued and multiplied favors may we feel our increasing obligations to gratitude, love, and obedience. May we have a sacred dread of thy displeasure, and a fervent desire of thine approbation. Give us the influences of thy holy spirit, that we may grow in every Christian grace and virtue. May the instructions of thy word be profitable to us, being mixed with faith. May we live as those appointed to die, and who expect to give account to God.

Sanctify to us all our joys and all our sorrows. May the trials and disappointments, which we may be called to endure, remind us of our condition, and lead us to a closer walk with God. May thy chastisements render us meet partakers of thy holiness, and may thy mercies rivet our affections more strongly on thee. Permit us to live so long as it shall be for thy glory and our spiritual good; and O prepare us to depart

out of this world in peace with thee, and in the hope of a joyful resurrection. In our wakeful, and in our sleeping hours, in health and in sickness, in prosperity and in adversity, may we be the objects of thy care and the subjects of thy grace.

We pray for those endeared to us by social, friendly, and kindred ties. May they be friends to virtue and religion, and heirs of an heavenly inheritance. May the troubled and disconsolate find a refuge; the forlorn, a friend; the orphan, a father; the widow, a judge, in thee. Guide the young in the paths of wisdom, and sustain the aged in all their infirmities. We pray for the advancement of learning and religion in this, and in all lands. O may the kingdoms of this world become the peaceable and happy kingdom of Jesus, through whom to thee be glory forever. Amen.

TUESDAY MORNING.

Jesus spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint.

O God, who art not far from any one of us, for by thee we live, and move, and have our being, we adore thee as the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ; and in his worthy name we bring thee our morning oblation. Though thou art high, yet thou hast respect to the lowly. Though the heaven of heavens cannot contain thee, yet thou condescendest to dwell with the humble and contrite heart. Thy favor is life. Thy loving-kindness is better than life. To fear thee is our highest wisdom; to serve thee, our highest privilege; and to glorify thee, our greatest glory. Thy hand has formed and upheld us. Thou hast breathed into us the breath of life, and thine inspiration has given us understanding.

We thank thee for all our powers and capacities of body and of soul. We thank thee for the grace and truth which have come to us by Jesus Christ, the Son of thy love. We thank thee for those records of thy dispensations, for those discoveries of thy character, will, and purposes, which thou hast conveyed to us by thine ancient prophets and by Jesus Christ. May we prize thy word above all price. May we believe and obey it; and may it make us wise unto salvation through faith in the Redeemer.

In our season of repose, thou wast our guardian; in our time of activity and labor, wilt thou be our strength and guide. Save us from folly, idleness, and sin. May we walk circumspectly, and have consciences void of offence.

Bless, O God, every family in this place. Adapt thy mercies to their circumstances and wants. Prosper the cause of religion among us. Bless the ministers of the gospel, and crown their exertions with success. Bless the cause of peace, liberty, truth, holiness, and charity.

Be our God through this, and all our days; and finally bring us into thy presence, where is fulness of joy, and to a seat at thy right hand, where are pleasures forevermore; and to thy name through Christ Jesus shall be all the glory, world without end. Amen.

TUESDAY EVENING.

In every joy that crowns my days,
In every pain I bear,
My heart shall find delight in praise,
Or seek relief in prayer.

INFINITE and eternal God! author of our being and source of all our blessings, we desire, in all the events and circumstances of our life, to acknowledge thee. We would recount the mercies of the day with thankful hearts, and beseech thee to forgive whatever thou hast seen amiss in our temper and conduct. May a remembrance of our past offences make us more humble and watchful in the time to come; and may a lively recollection of thy past care over us persuade us to trust in thee in every future season.

O God of grace and truth, dispose each one of us to embrace the Saviour as he is offered to us in the gospel. May we honor him as thy Son, and our master; may we

listen to, and learn of him as our teacher; may we take our cross against vanity and sin, and follow him; may we copy his example and possess his spirit. O may we be created anew in Christ Jesus unto good works. Heavenly Father, take away our pride, and clothe us with humility. O God, suffer us not to glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us not be high-minded, but fear. May we remember that our time is short. May we use the world, as not abusing it. May we fight the good fight of faith, and lay hold on a crown of life.

Hear our intercessions for all our fellow-men. Instruct the ignorant, reform the sinful, heal the sick, comfort the mourning. Be a father to the fatherless, a shield to those in danger, a refuge for the oppressed, a deliverer to those in bondage.

While we are asleep, wilt thou protect us; and when we awake in the morning, may we feel that thou art with us. We offer our prayer in the great Redeemer's name, through whom to thee be glory forever. Amen.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

Lord, in the morning thou shalt hear
My voice ascending high;
To thee will I direct my prayer,
To thee lift up my eye.

ADORABLE Creator and constant Benefactor, who art above all, and through all, and in us all, the only wise and true God! may we always cherish towards thee feelings of reverence, gratitude, and devotion; and also an ardent love and attachment to thy Son, the only mediator between God and man. O may we never forget what he has done and suffered for us; and may we so believe on him that he shall be precious to our souls. Let none of us count ourselves unworthy of eternal life, neglect the great salvation offered to us, nor receive the grace of God in vain. Let us not love and choose darkness rather than light. Remove from us all blindness of mind, all

hardness of heart, all contempt of thy word and commandments.

May we so live, that our life shall prove a blessing to us, and to those with whom we are connected, and be also for thy glory. Help us to exercise that repentance which is unto life eternal, that faith which is unto salvation, that charity which is the bond of perfectness, that love which is the fulfilling of the law, and that hope which is full of a glorious immortality.

Bless the government under which we live, and all our civil rulers. Pity and relieve the condition of the poor and distressed, and open a way for the universal spread and reception of the gospel of Christ. Encourage and strengthen the friends of temperance, peace, humanity, and pure religion; and may all thy children learn to deal justly, to love mercy, and walk humbly with thee, their God.

O Father, we thankfully own thy care over us the past night, and pray for thy guidance, support, and blessing during this

day. As it will bring us nearer to death and the grave, so may it also bring us nearer to heaven and thee. Hear, O God, our prayer, and accept us through thy mercy in Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Amen.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God.

O God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secret thing can be hid; wilt thou cleanse our hearts from all unrighteousness, purify our desires, and assist us by thy grace to reform whatever is wrong in our dispositions and conduct. We acknowledge our dependence on thee for every temporal and every spiritual blessing. We would seek every favor in the way of thine appointment; and through Jesus Christ, would render thanks to thee for thy loving-kindness to us and to all thy creatures. We are thine by creation and preservation; may we also be thine by the bonds of an everlasting covenant. May our powers and faculties be cultivated and improved;

may our time and talents be faithfully employed in thy service; may our knowledge be reduced to practice; our faith have the witness of good works; our spiritual birth be tested by our purity of life; and our hope manifested by detachment from the world, by submission to thy will, and a filial trust in thy providence.

Great God, the day is thine; the night also is thine. May we lie down to rest, confiding in thy protection, committing the keeping of our souls and bodies to thee; and shouldst thou continue us to the dawning light of another morn, may we awake with recruited strength, and with new desires to do thy will. Dispose us to keep our end in view — to bear in mind that we are constantly liable to sickness and to death. O teach us so to live that we may never be unprepared, nor afraid to die. Bless the cause of divine truth. May those, who enjoy the light of the gospel, live as becomes it; and upon those, who are sitting in moral and religious darkness, may the Sun of Righteousness

arise with healing in his beams. These, our petitions, we present unto thee, O God, through our glorious Mediator, Jesus Christ. Amen.

THURSDAY MORNING.

Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving.

HEAVENLY Father! help us to approach thee with the morning sacrifice in the dispositions and faith of thy children, and as disciples of thy Son, Jesus Christ, by whom we would give thee thanks for thy goodness, and implore thy protection and blessing. We thank thee for our preservation the past night, for our refreshing sleep, and for the light and mercies of this morning. We would remember with gratitude all thy dealings towards us. We would own and feel our dependence on thee, and would ever confide in thy paternal care. Keep us this day from sinning against thee, or abusing thy blessings. Animate us in all the duties, and prepare us for all the events before us. May we be watchful over our desires and passions,

and ever act under a deep sense of our accountableness to thee.

While we labor to make suitable provision for our temporal wants, let us not be unmindful of our dependence on thee, nor be negligent about our spiritual welfare. Save us from an unreasonable anxiety about our earthly condition, and dispose us to lay up our treasure in the heavens. While we live in the world, may we live above it. May we grow wiser and better by that course of moral discipline to which we are subjected. Aid us so to own and follow Christ, that we shall be owned by him, when he appears in glory.

Bring each of us to the close of the day in peace and safety. Enlighten the world with a knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus, and show thy salvation to all mankind. Be with all those who are preaching the gospel in heathen lands, and make their words effectual by thy heavenly aid.

Reward our benefactors, and dispose us to exercise a meek and forgiving spirit toward all who may have injured us. May our relatives and friends share in thy favors; and wilt thou guide them and us in the way of holiness.

O thou, who hearest prayer, wilt thou hear, answer, and forgive us, according to thine infinite mercy in Christ our Lord. Amen.

THURSDAY EVENING.

Sum up, at night, what thou hast done by day;
And in the morning, what thou hast to do.
Dress and undress thy soul. Mark the decay
And growth of it. If, with thy watch, *that* too
Be down, then wind up both. Since we shall be
Most surely judged, make thy accounts agree.

O God, the Creator and Governor of the universe, the giver of every good and perfect gift; may it never seem a weariness to any of us to worship and serve thee. May we delight in reading thy holy word, in meditation, and prayer. May we ever account it a good thing to show forth thy loving-kindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness at night. Lord, hitherto thou hast helped us. Thy providence has guarded our lives, and thy bounty has supplied our wants. Whatever of duty we have done this day, wilt thou graciously accept; and mercifully pardon all our sins. Deliver us from the dominion of error, and

sanctify us by the truth, as it is revealed to us by thy Son Jesus. O may we, like him, make it our meat to do thy will; like him, may we seek to glorify thy name; like him, may we fill up our days in doing good. Teach us the value of our time, the worth of our souls, the importance of religion, and our need of that grace and mercy which are offered to the world through a crucified Saviour.

May all professors of religion walk worthy of their high and holy vocation; and let their light so shine before men, that others, seeing their good works, may glorify thee, their heavenly Father. Regard with compassion those who know thee not. Bring them to a sense of their condition and dangers, and to a true and timely repentance.

Be merciful to the poor, the afflicted, and distressed, and relieve them according to their necessities. Hear our prayer for all in peril, tribulation, and bondage. May those who now delight in war become advocates for peace; may the oppressive and

cruel become humane and merciful. Dispose the intemperate to form habits of sobriety, and the profane to reverence thy supreme majesty. O may vice and iniquity come to an end, and virtue and holiness universally prevail.

Defend us from all danger this night; and if we awake in the morning, may we again dedicate ourselves to thee.

Not in our own name, O God, do we ask and offer these things; but in the name of thy Son, our Saviour. Amen.

FRIDAY MORNING.

"Words without thoughts never to heaven go."

We thank thee, heavenly Father, for the light of this morning; for the health and happiness, for the domestic comforts and the religious privileges, with which we are still favored. We would consider life a blessing, so long as thou shalt suffer us to live. For us to live, may it be Christ, and to die, gain. May our faith and hope be such, that, in the time of our dissolution, we can say, O death! where is thy sting? O grave! where is thy victory? Thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. O prepare each one of us for the conflict of a dying hour, and for the solemn realities of the eternal world.

Take the charge of us through the passing day; and while we implore thy watchful care over us, let us not be stu-

pid and careless ourselves. Thou knowest our frame, thou rememberest we are dust. O may thy strength make us strong for every conflict with the world and with ourselves; and may thy wisdom make us wise to find and pursue the path of virtue. Let us not consent to the enticements of sinners, nor choose the way of the wicked; and may ours be the happiness to fear thee, and to have respect unto the recompense of reward. Let not the artful beguile and ensnare us, nor the seductive lead us astray. In every duty may we seek thine approbation and have thy blessing; in every trial and disappointment be thou our solace and hope. Let us never slight thy holy word, nor disregard the admonitions of thy providence, nor stifle the voice of conscience, nor quench, nor grieve thy holy spirit. Let not our appetites and passions betray us into sin, nor our desires estrange us from thee. In the midst of our daily occupations, may our toils be lightened by thoughts of thee; in our seasons of rest may we meditate on thy works and

word; and not only in our times of prayer, but always, may we have pious minds and devout hearts. By our conversation and conduct, by our justice and benevolence, may the world be benefited by our having lived in it.

Almighty Parent, thou hast bound us together by kindred ties. O may these ties be hallowed by religion, and rendered indissoluble by a Christian faith and hope.

May we who are parents be faithful to the children thou hast given us, and bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. May our children honor and obey their parents, and tenderly love one another.

Bless all the families around us. May every house be the abode of health, religion, and happiness. Be near to all in any kind of trouble.

O Lord, our waiting eyes are unto thee. Wilt thou hear the voice of our supplication and give us an answer of peace, through thy mercy in Jesus Christ. Amen.

FRIDAY EVENING.

The Lord looketh on the heart.

ALMIGHTY God! giver of life and of every good gift, day by day would we magnify thy name, and every night would we bear record of thy faithfulness. O Lord, how manifold are thy works; in wisdom hast thou made them all. Thou art glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders. Thy greatness is unsearchable. Thou hast set thy glory above the heavens, and thy truth reacheth unto the clouds; and thy mercy is from generation to generation. With awful veneration and profound reverence would we bow before thee, remembering the infinite distance there is between thee, the Eternal and All-wise, and creatures of yesterday, who know comparatively nothing; between a God of purity and goodness, and the erring and sinful children of men. But we rejoice that

through Jesus Christ we are encouraged to address thee by the endearing title of our Father in heaven. O give us some just views of thy character, that our homage may in some humble degree be worthy of thine acceptance. O may the praise and prayer of our lips be the dictates of our consciences and the emotions of our hearts. Give us a due sense of our condition and wants, that we may ask of thee those things which are pleasing in thy sight.

Parent of good! thou hast nourished and brought us up as children. To thee we are indebted for the life that now is, and for the hope of a better life to come. We thank thee that thou hast never forsaken thine offspring, nor forgotten them, though they have so often forsaken and forgotten thee. We thank thee for the great love thou didst manifest to mankind, when they were sunk in error and sin. We thank thee, O God of grace, for that early promise and prophecy of a Saviour, in whom all nations should be blessed; and that in the

fulness of time thou didst sanctify and send him into the world, to be the herald of glad tidings, the messenger of divine love, the teacher of divine truth, the exemplar of every Christian grace and virtue, and an all-sufficient Saviour. We thank thee for all that power, wisdom, and glory in which he was arrayed; and that thou didst give thy spirit without measure unto him. We thank thee that thou wast with him in his labors and sufferings, that thou didst strengthen him in his agony, and sustain him on the cross. We thank thee for those attestations thou didst give, while he abode among men, and when he was expiring by crucifixion, that he was thy well-beloved Son in whom thy soul delighted. We thank thee, that by thy mighty power he burst the bands of death, that he triumphed over the grave, that he showed himself alive to his followers after his passion, that he ascended into heaven, and that he is seated at thy right hand.

Merciful God, give to each one of us a saving interest in his dying love. Make

each one of us a subject of this King of Zion. May we so possess and exhibit the power and spirit of his religion, that others shall take knowledge of us that we have been with Jesus, and have learnt of him who was meek and lowly in heart. May we walk as he walked. May we be willing to suffer and die for his sake and the gospel. And when the summons for our departure out of the world shall come, in imitation and in the faith of him, may we then, as we would now, exclaim, Father, into thy hands we commend our spirits, hoping in thy mercy through Jesus Christ. Amen.

SATURDAY MORNING.

I exhort, therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, and intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men.

HEAVENLY Father! we would feel it no less a privilege than a duty to pray. We would esteem it our highest pleasure to render to thee our morning and evening worship. Thou hast created us, and not we ourselves; and it is to thy providence and bounty that we owe the continuance of our lives and the supply of our numerous wants from day to day. In thy hand are the soul of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind. All our springs of happiness are in thee.

We rejoice that thou hast caused the day-spring from on high to visit us, and the Sun of Righteousness to rise upon us with healing in his beams. We rejoice that we were born in a land of gospel light and freedom,

where thy name is known, thy word read and preached, and thine ordinances observed. We give glory to thee for what thy truth has already accomplished in the ages that are past; we rejoice in the prospect of what it will accomplish in the generations to come. We thank thee for the hopes we are permitted to entertain of its universal spread and prevalence. O may such means be employed to evangelize the world, as shall prove effectual in bringing the millions of our fellow-beings, who are gone astray like lost sheep, into the arms of the good shepherd.

May thy word soon be translated into every tongue and language, so that all nations and tribes of men shall be able to read the wonderful works of God. Graciously remove those obstacles which now impede the progress of Christianity. May heathen superstitions give place to heavenly truth. Increase the number of those who will count all things loss, not only that they may win, but also that they may preach Christ. Give them an apostolic zeal;

give them a martyr spirit; sustain them in their arduous labors; cheer them in their discouragements; give them a prudent mind, a sound judgment, a warm heart, a heaven-born charity, and an eloquent tongue.

While we pray for those in pagan darkness, we would not be forgetful of those in Christian lands, who ridicule and contemn thy word, who disregard thine authority, and deny thine existence, and make a mock of sin. O wilt thou arrest the progress of infidelity, error, and vice. Soften the hard heart; bend the stubborn will; enlighten the bewildered mind; alarm the guilty conscience; and heal, gracious God, the sin-sick soul.

We lament the discord and divisions that prevail among the disciples of Christ, spoiling that unity which should distinguish them, and marring the beauty of his church. O may prejudice, bitterness, and wrath, bigotry, intolerance, and uncharitableness be discountenanced and shunned by every follower of Jesus. May the various de-

nominations of Christians cultivate a spirit of peace and brotherly love toward one another. Let them not strive to have dominion over each others' faith, but to be helpers of each others' joy. While they earnestly contend for the faith once delivered unto the saints, may they use no carnal weapons in their spiritual warfare, but only such as are furnished for every soldier of the cross from the armory of God.

God of the universe, we thank thee for that mild form of government under which we live. We pray for those who are intrusted with the care of our national concerns, and who watch over our social welfare. May they fear God, hate injustice, oppression, and covetousness, and so fill their high stations as to reflect honor on themselves, and advance our civil interests.

Father and Friend of mankind, and God of peace! Wilt thou dispose thy children to subdue those desires and passions, whence come wars and fightings. May they all be bound together by fraternal and Christian ties, and know, by experience,

how good it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.

Mercifully guide and guard each one of us through this and all our days; and when time with us shall be no more, may we enjoy a blissful eternity; which we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

SATURDAY EVENING.

If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me.

O God, who hast preserved and fed us through another week; we come before thee, as a family, in the name of thy dear Son, to acknowledge and praise thee. But when we call to remembrance thy mercies, we are reminded of our unworthiness and sins. O make us truly penitent; and then restore us to thy favor. A broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise. Create in us a clean heart, and renew a right spirit within us. As we dread the consequences, so may we loathe the pleasures of sin. If in the closing week we have listened to the cravings of appetite, if we have yielded to furious passions, if we have indulged unholy desires, impure thoughts, inordinate affections, if we have wasted our time, neglected our op-

portunities to receive and to do good, if we have been unjust and unmerciful to our fellow-men, or disobedient and impious to our Maker; O convince us of our sinfulness, and assist us to reform. Give us not up to a hardened heart and a seared conscience, but quicken us according to thy word.

May we go to our rest in peace with thee, and in charity with all mankind. Thou hast saved us from the destruction that wasteth at noonday; wilt thou also save us from the pestilence that walketh in darkness. May we enjoy the repose that we need; and shouldst thou bless us with the light of another of the days of the Son of Man, may we so employ the sacred season that it shall prove a time of refreshing from the Lord to each of our souls. May we duly appreciate and use all our advantages for moral and religious improvement; and may our virtues and graces increase with our increasing age and knowledge.

In our prayers we would remember the poor, the oppressed, the disconsolate, and

the dying. In their trials may they have the sympathies of good men, the comforts of true religion, and thy celestial aid.

May those allied to us by birth, be born of God; may those, whom we account our friends, be friendly to religion and followers of Christ. And if we have any enemies, may our ways so please thee that thou wilt make them to be at peace with us.

Grant, O God, that the gospel of thy Son may rule and sanctify the world. May the period arrive, when all men shall worship thee, the everlasting Father, in spirit and in truth, and become the faithful followers of Jesus Christ; through whom to thee be praise and glory forever. Amen.

SUNDAY MORNING.

Sweet is the day of sacred rest;
No mortal cares shall seize my breast;
O may my heart in tune be found,
Like David's harp of solemn sound.

INFINITELY great and glorious Lord, our God! By thy kind care we have been preserved through the past night, and it is to thy mercy we owe the light of this sacred morning. We thank thee for this season of rest from worldly toils, and of refreshment to our weary spirits. O may we rest from sin, and seriously employ the time in holy exercises and duties. Let not our advantages be neglected, our privileges disregarded, and thy mercies slighted. Supply our natural — supply our spiritual wants.

May we this day be much in prayer, in careful self-examination, and in devout meditation. Incline us to consider our ways,

to confess and lament our sins, and sincerely to repent of them. May the day be blessed to the increase of our knowledge, to the strengthening of our faith, to the enlivening of our hope, to the quickening of our consciences, to the purifying of our hearts, to the chastening of our affections, to the elevating of our desires, and to the edifying of our souls. May we read thy word with earnest desires to know thy will and to be conformed to it, to know our duty and to do it. May we pray with the spirit and the understanding also. Turn off our eyes from beholding vanity. Keep us from grovelling, earthly thoughts, sinful associates, and idle conversation.

If we are permitted to visit thy temple, may we do it with gladness and joy; and in the courts of our God recount his mercies and speak his praise. Bless thy ministering servant, who shall guide our devotions, and address us in thy name. May he come to us in the fulness of the gospel of peace. O may his instructions prove a word in season to each one of us.

Wilt thou, O God, regard in great mercy all thy worshipping assemblies this day. May many sinners be brought to true repentance, and be born from above. Give success to the cause of religion in this place.

O God, who didst so love the world as to give thine only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him might not perish, but have everlasting life; wilt thou send forth thy light and truth into all parts of the world, and illumine, sanctify, and save it.

We pray for all the churches of our Lord and Saviour. May they be built up on the foundation of the prophets and apostles, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone; and may all their members be filled with all the fulness of God.

O Lord, when we look upon pagan lands, and consider the many millions of thy children whose souls are darkened and deluded, we are ready to exclaim, The harvest truly is great, and the laborers are few. O wilt thou send forth laborers into

thy harvest, and wilt thou crown their endeavours with success. Hear our prayer for all those who are preaching the gospel to heathen nations. May their lives and health be precious in thy sight; and may the work of the Lord prosper in their hands.

We invoke thy benediction on all our literary and humane institutions. We pray for those in captivity and bondage; for all who travel by land or by water; for all in danger and tribulation.

Regard with thy favor the land in which we live, and all our civil rulers. Give them wisdom to devise, and courage to pursue those measures which shall tend to the security and promotion of our best interests as a nation.

Bring us to the close of the day in peace with thee, and with our own minds; and when all our days on earth shall be numbered and finished, wilt thou receive us into that glorious and happy rest which remaineth unto the people of God; which we ask in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

SUNDAY EVENING.

Sweet is the work, my God, my King,
To praise thy name, give thanks and sing;
To show thy love by morning light,
And talk of all thy truth at night.

O God, we would reverently and devoutly draw nigh to thy throne of mercy, and worship thee as the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ; and in his name would thank thee for the goodness that has crowned this day. We would own thy hand in all our temporal comforts; but we desire especially to thank thee for those blessings which distinguish us as immortal beings and Christians. We thank thee that thou hast made us capable of virtue and holiness, and hast furnished us with means and motives to lead a moral and pious life. We thank thee for the glad tidings which thou hast published to the world by the gospel of Christ, and that our ears have heard

the joyful sound. We desire to be grateful to thee, that we have the day and means of grace, and the hopes of immortal glory; that we have enjoyed the privileges of another Christian Sabbath; that we have had repeated opportunities for reading thy word, for praising thy name, and presenting our petitions to thee; that we have been permitted to worship thee, not only in secret and around our family altar, but also in thy temple. O may the prayers and praises, we have offered thee, find audience and acceptance through a crucified Saviour. May the instructions of thine house have a salutary influence on us through the week. May the good impressions which have been made or revived be lasting; may the holy resolutions we have formed or strengthened be carried into practice. And O wilt thou pardon the sins of our holy things. If our devotions have been languid and lifeless; if our thoughts have been wandering and worldly; if our desires have been earthly and sensual, our minds inattentive, our hearts cold, our consciences dull and stu-

pid, our service formal and unmeaning; O touch us with a sense of our guilt, and lead us to repentance.

May those of us, who have owned Jesus Christ, live by faith in him, and bear a moral resemblance to him. As the branches are united to the vine, so may we be united to Christ; and may the discipline of thy providence, and showers of divine grace cause us to yield much fruit to thy glory. And if any of us are yet out of Christ, O may we be brought to see and feel our condition.

May those of us, who are parents, feel our obligations to train up our offspring for thy service; and may children early be taught the fear of the Lord.

May all who repose beneath this roof be the objects of thy care and favor.

We would sympathise with the poor, the suffering, and the afflicted; wilt thou supply their various wants out of thine infinite fulness.

We pray for the progress of the gospel, for the dissemination of Christian truth, and for the diffusion of celestial light. May thy

church be purified and enlarged, till all nations shall know, receive, and obey the truth. We pray for the ministers of our holy religion. O may they be faithful to thee, and to the souls of men; and may their labors be blessed. We beseech thee to regard in mercy all heathen lands, and all missionaries who have gone forth to turn them from superstition and idolatry to the worship of thee, the true God.

We pray for all who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, and for all in any kind of bondage. O God may the time soon come, when intemperance, war, persecution, and slavery shall be brought to a perpetual end. Direct and bless all in authority over us.

Wilt thou give us secure and quiet repose, and when we awake may we rejoice in thy morning mercies. Hear us, O Lord, in these our prayers, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

MONDAY MORNING.

The Lord is nigh unto all that call upon him; to all that call upon him in truth.

O Lord of heaven and of earth! thou art our Father. May we have the dispositions of thy children. Thou art our God; may we worship thee aright; thou art our Sovereign; may we be submissive to thy will; thou art our lawgiver; may we yield obedience to all thy commands. O may we do nothing to dishonor thee nor to degrade ourselves. May we find our pleasure in pleasing thee, our delight in keeping thy statutes, our happiness in subjecting our wills to thine. May all that is beautiful and sublime in nature remind us of thine adorable perfections. May all the goodness we see displayed around us lead our thoughts to thee, the centre and sum of all good. We would rejoice in that happiness which we witness diffused about us, as well

as in that of which we are partakers. Let us not be insensible to thy favors, nor overlook thee the giver in thy multiplied gifts.

In all the business of life may we act as moral, accountable, and immortal beings. May we be guided by Christian principles, and influenced by Christian motives. In the pursuit of honor, wealth, or enjoyment, may we employ no means which thou wilt not approve and bless. May we form no purpose, may we engage in no work, on which we cannot implore thy benediction.

Assist us to make all that moral and mental improvement of which our nature is susceptible, and to attain to that degree of happiness for which we were designed. Give us a lively concern not only for our own welfare, but also for that of others. May we cultivate our social powers and affections; and, according to our ability and means, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, relieve the oppressed, instruct the ignorant, admonish the thoughtless; in the name of Christ promoting the comfort, and diminishing the cares of our fellow-men.

May thy power and wisdom be with us, and thy blessing be upon us this day. Hear our supplications for all mankind. Build up all churches in the faith and discipline of the gospel. Supply them with pastors after thine own heart. May those, who teach, be taught of God; may those, who hear, hear as those that expect to give account to God. Convey the means of grace and the hopes of salvation to all men. May error and sin, discord and strife, cease; and may truth and holiness, harmony and love, have universal and perpetual dominion throughout the world. Save us from national sins and national calamities; and wilt thou, who wast the God of our fathers, be our friend and portion forever; which we ask in the name and as disciples of Jesus Christ. Amen.

MONDAY EVENING.

He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination.

ALMIGHTY God, who seest in secret; when we attempt to worship thee, may we be mindful of thine all-pervading presence, and that thou requirest truth in the inward part. Thou hast carried us out and brought us in in safety. We are witnesses for thee that thou art good and gracious. O may our spared lives be devoted to thee. O may our continued powers be employed in thy service. Whatever we have done this day according to thy will, wilt thou accept; and whatever we have done contrary to thy law, wilt thou pardon. May we often consider our ways, examine our conduct, and scrutinize our hearts. Of whatever else we are ignorant, may we know ourselves and our condition, and have just views of our relations to thee. May our

appetites and passions be controlled by reason, and may our reason be guided by thy word.

We thank thee for all those blessings we enjoy as individuals and as a family. May nothing spoil our peace, nor dissolve our union. May ours be a family of prayer, a household of faith; and may we so improve in every grace, that, when separated by death, we may again be united in a better world.

Thou art now drawing around us the shades of night; may they remind us of the shadow of death, which must ere long overspread us. By the darkness that hangs over the world thou art hiding it from our view; may it lead us to reflect how soon we must close our eyes on temporal and terrestrial objects forever. When we lay our garments by and recline on our pillow, may we consider that we must ere long be wrapt in our shroud and make our bed in the grave. O teach us so to live, that death may be to us disarmed of its terrors and the grave of its victory. O may we die the

death of the righteous, and our end be like his; and may this desire lead us to live sober, righteous, and pious lives. Give to us thy holy spirit, guide us with thy right hand, and afterward receive us to glory.

Vouchsafe to each one of us thy protection in our season of rest; and, if it seem good to thee, awake us to the joys and duties of another day.

Be with all who are desolate and oppressed. May all who labor and are heavy laden come to Christ. Enlarge the Christian church; purify it from all false doctrine and all sinful practice. Bless the religious society with which we are connected, and thy servant who ministers to us in holy things. May his labors be abundantly blessed.

Hear our supplications for our country, and for all who watch over our national welfare. Thou hast distinguished us by privileges; may we be distinguished by our obedience to thee, and by our love to one another.

Extend the blessings of truth, liberty, and peace to all mankind; and may thy kingdom come and thy will be done, as in heaven, so on earth; which we ask in the name of our ascended Lord and Saviour. Amen.

TUESDAY MORNING.

Awake, my soul! and, with the sun,
Thy daily stage of duty run;
Shake off dull sloth, and joyful rise
To pay thy morning sacrifice.

O Thou who reignest in heaven above, and on earth beneath, who hast been our kind protector while we slept, and hast visited us with thy morning mercies, we would in the name of Jesus Christ draw nigh to thee, with reverence for thy supreme majesty, with humility for our unworthiness, but with confidence in thy promises and hope in thy word. We rejoice that we are still the objects of thy paternal care, that our health and comforts are still continued to us, that we have been permitted to participate in thy bounty, to read thy holy word, and now to approach a throne of grace.

God of our life and lengthener of our days, we commend our bodies and souls

to thee. Watch over our lives, direct us in the path of duty, and make us instruments of usefulness in the world. In all our ways may we acknowledge thee. In all we do may we glorify thy name. Help us to remember that we are immortal and accountable beings. Dispose us by thy grace to set our affections on things above; and may we, when the time of our departure is at hand, have for our joy the testimony of conscience, that in simplicity and godly sincerity we have had our conversation in the world. While we dwell on earth, may our conversation be in heaven; and when we shall close our eyes on the scenes of time, may they behold in joyful fruition the scenes of eternity.

Deliver us from all moral evil; and help us to endure all other evils that fall to our lot, as seeing thee who art invisible.

Bestow thy favors upon our relatives and friends according to their need. Supply the wants of the poor, heal the sick, soothe the heart that is filled with anguish, illumine the mind that is bewildered with

error, and reclaim those who have gone astray from thee. Prosper the cause of pure and undefiled religion. May a brighter day dawn on thy church, when all men shall become followers of Jesus, and all Christians shall love one another; when all on earth, as well as all in heaven, shall join in ascriptions of praise, and thanksgiving, and honor, and glory, to him that sitteth on the throne, and to the Lamb, forever and ever. Amen.

TUESDAY EVENING.

When ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have aught against any; that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.

Our Father who art in heaven, wilt thou draw nigh to each one of us by thy grace and spirit, while we attempt to draw nigh to thee by prayer and devotion. Through him who is the light of the world, and the way and the truth and the life, would we seek access to a throne of mercy. Through him wilt thou accept our tribute of praise for thy patience and gentleness towards us till now; and through him wilt thou listen to our prayer. Whatever thine eye hath seen that is wrong in our temper and behaviour this day, wilt thou pardon. We would acknowledge our transgressions; we would be sorry for our sins. Help us to break them off by repentance, and our iniquities by turning to the Lord.

May we employ our time, our talents, our worldly substance, our religious opportunities, and our influence, in conformity to thy will. We know our time is short; O may we redeem it. We know that the fashion of this world passeth away; let us not give it our thoughts and desires. And may we, as strangers and sojourners on the earth, mortify and subdue those lusts and passions which war against the soul.

So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom; and so to occupy every talent committed to our trust that we may finally give up our account to thee with joy and not with grief.

May no evil befall us while asleep; and should our eyes behold another rising sun, may our hearts in devotion again rise to thee, remembering that all our blessings are dispensed by thy hand.

We supplicate thy blessing, O God, on all our connexions; on our country and its rulers; on our churches and their pastors; on our schools and colleges, and those who

instruct and govern them. May those in darkness see thy heavenly light; may those in tribulation have thine all-sufficient and ready help; and may all those who are in any kind of bondage be brought into the liberty of the sons of God. These our supplications we present to thee, through our glorious Mediator, Jesus Christ. Amen.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

If any man be a worshipper of God, and doth his will, him he heareth.

O THOU who dwellest in the heavens, whose power none can withstand, whose wisdom none can fathom, and who art good unto all! We would adore, we would praise, and worship thee. Holy and reverend is thy name. Thy sceptre is a sceptre of righteousness; thy commandment is pure; thy law is just. Watchful is thy providence which takes care of us; unfailing is thy bounty; great are thy tender mercies. Open our eyes, that we may behold wondrous things out of thy law.

Thanks be unto thee, O Lord, for the safety and repose of the past night, and for the cheering light of this morning. Since it has pleased thee to spare us to begin another day, dispose us to spend it in thy fear and in thy service. May we be faith-

ful in the discharge of the duties we owe to one another and to thee. May we be sober and watch unto prayer. May we be temperate in all things, and let our moderation be known unto all men. May we be diligent to make our calling and election sure, and be ready to every good word and work.

Impart to each one of us such blessings as we severally need. Make thy grace sufficient for us in all our temptations and trials. Give us such views of the odiousness and ruinous consequences of sin, that we shall hate and avoid it; such views of the beauty and importance of holiness, that we shall desire and seek it. May thy works fill us with admiration, and thy goodness to us excite our gratitude. Prepare us for the events, and direct us in the duties of this day.

Bless those who are near and dear to us. Let thy blessing rest upon all the families of this town. May every house be a house of prayer, and every heart a meet residence of thy holy spirit. O may sinners be per-

suaded to repent; and may professing Christians abound more and more in all goodness. Be near to all the sons and daughters of sorrow. Bind up the broken heart; heal the wounded spirit; and soothe the troubled mind.

O God, who hast taught us to make prayers and intercessions for all men, we beseech thee to extend thy favors to all mankind. Endue those, who make our laws and direct our national concerns, with those virtues which shall qualify them for their important offices. Bless our schools and seminaries of learning, and all those associations which are formed for the instruction of the ignorant, for the relief of the distressed, and the reformation of the vicious and sinful. We would remember before thee the missionaries of the cross, who have gone into distant lands to preach Christ crucified. Preserve them amid the dangers to which they are exposed, and make them successful in diffusing the light of the gospel. O give thy Son the heathen for his inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the

earth for his possession; and may all nations walk in the light of the Lord. These our devotions we present to thee, O Father, through thine only begotten Son, our Saviour. Amen.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

Glory to thee, our God, this night,
For all the blessings of the light;
Keep us, O keep us, King of kings,
Beneath thine own almighty wings.

O LORD our God! gracious and merciful, slow to anger, abundant in goodness and truth; we bless thee for all our domestic comforts, for all our social joys, for all our friendly ties, for all our religious privileges, and for all our heavenly hopes.

Though there be that are called gods many, and lords many, yet we acknowledge but one God, even the Father, and one Lord, Jesus Christ.

We thank thee for our intellectual and moral powers, and for all the means of knowledge, virtue, and happiness with which we are furnished. O let not thy favors be lost upon us. Assist us so to employ our day of probation, that we shall be prepared for the hour of death and the day

of judgment. May we so spend the fleeting moments of time, that we shall enjoy the countless ages of eternity. Dispose each of us to search and try our ways; to compare them with the requirements of thy word and the example of thy Son. Let not sin have dominion over us. Give us thy quickening spirit, and lay upon us thy restraining grace. O that we might awake to righteousness, and be alive to God. May we be clothed with heavenly armor; may we have the shield of faith, the breastplate of righteousness, the sword of the spirit, and for an helmet the hope of salvation. May we strive manfully and lawfully; and so run the Christian race that we may obtain a crown of life.

We desire now and at all times to praise thee, O Lord, for the gift of thy dear Son. We desire to exercise unfeigned gratitude to Jesus Christ for all that he hath done, taught, and suffered, to bring us peace and hope on earth, and to open to us the kingdom of heaven. May we remember his word and works, observe his ordinances

and precepts, and have the same mind which was also in him.

Spread over us the wings of thy protection while our senses are locked in sleep. Keep us from danger, and our souls and bodies in health.

While we live, may we live to the Lord; and when we die, may we inherit the blessedness of those who die in the Lord.

Bless all for whom we should pray. Impart light to the morally blind; awake to newness of life those who are spiritually dead. O may thy truth convince and persuade those, who deny thee and renounce the gospel, to become children of God and disciples of Jesus. Feed the hungry, clothe the naked. Give patience to those exercised with pain, submission to the afflicted, and to the dying a faith and hope which shall bring their immortal souls into heavenly mansions.

May we remember that this is not our rest. O that we might live near thee now, that we may dwell with thee hereafter! To this end wilt thou multiply grace, mer-

cy, and peace unto us from thee, the Father, and from our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

THURSDAY MORNING.

I will, therefore, that men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.

O LORD, our heavenly Father, we beseech thee, through Christ our Mediator and Saviour, to give us thy holy spirit to awaken and guide our devotions, so that they may edify us, and be acceptable to thee.

Thou hast been our preserver during the defenceless hours of sleep, and now thou art granting us the comforts of another morning. We would begin the day with a deep sense of our dependence on thee. Strengthen us for its duties, support us under its trials, and prepare us for its events. Dispose us to employ our time and influence in such a manner as to benefit mankind and glorify thee. Make us wise to that which is good, and give us the understanding to depart from evil. In our care for our temporal, let us not over-

look our spiritual welfare. In making provision for the life that now is, let us not forget that which is to come. Keep us in the knowledge and fear of thee all the day long. Make us diligent and faithful in our respective callings and stations. May we walk uprightly before both God and man. If we are tempted, suffer us not to yield; but enable us to resist the temptation. If we are troubled, may a sense of thy presence give us tranquillity of soul.

Bring us to the close of the day in health of body, peace of conscience, and grateful for thy continued goodness. May we spend the day as we shall wish we had spent it, when we come to die. O prepare each one of us by repentance, by faith, by hope, and charity, for a happy death.

To our prayers for ourselves we join our intercessions for all our fellow-beings. Supply their wants; and guide them into a saving knowledge of thy truth as it is in Jesus, by whom we render to thee worship and praise forever. Amen.

THURSDAY EVENING.

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him; but let him ask in faith, nothing wavering.

O God, who art the author of our being and the source of all good, we come before thee this evening to offer up our tribute of thanksgiving and praise for thy providence in guarding our lives, and for thy bounty in supplying our wants to the present moment. We would acknowledge our entire dependence on thee for all we enjoy, and for all we desire. We would not approach thee in our own name, for we are unworthy; but in the name of thy Son, in whom thou art ever well pleased. Incline each one of us to exercise true repentance for our sins; so that we may obtain thy pardoning mercy. Give us thy holy spirit to help our infirmities, and to guide us in the way of thy commandments. Impress us

with a deep sense of the importance of religion, of the worth of our souls, of our need of thy grace and mercy; and O that we might all become the children of God by a living faith in Jesus Christ.

Bless all the members of this family, and all the inhabitants of this town. Satisfy the wants of the poor and needy. Give patience and returning health to the sick, or prepare them for an exchange of worlds. Comfort the sorrowful. Convert the unconverted. Edify thy children. Prosper the cause of religion. Let not the powerful oppress the weak; nor the rich trample upon the poor; nor the learned despise the ignorant; nor the young treat with irreverence and neglect the aged. Save those in high stations from pride and vain-glory; and those in the humbler walks of life from envy and discontent. May all thy children understand their relations to one another, and to thee their common Father.

Be our guardian through the night. Grant us the repose that our wearied nature requires; and, if it please thee, awake us

in the morning with renovated powers of body and mind, and with earnest desires to spend the day in the performance of our duties. May we remember how soon the night of death will come. O may we all so live, that we may sleep in Jesus, and in the morning of the resurrection wake to immortal life of joy and glory; all which we ask through our risen and ascended Saviour. Amen.

FRIDAY MORNING.

And in the morning rising up a great while before day, he went out and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.

All-wise and ever blessed God, who hast caused another morning's light to shine upon us in peace and safety; we would, as a family, as thy children, and as believers in thy Son, surround our domestic altar, and, with hearts penetrated by thy goodness, bring thee the offering of prayer and devotion. May this be no unmeaning service to any one of us; but may it delight our souls and refresh our spirits. Let us not pay thee a cold, a formal, and lifeless homage; but may the gratitude we express by the language of our lips be also expressed in our actions and lives.

Accept our praise for all thou hast done for us by nature and by grace; for all thou hast done for our perishing

bodies and our imperishable souls. We thank thee for the glorious gospel; and for those messages of love and mercy thou hast conveyed to an ignorant and sinful world through a crucified Saviour. O may we diligently hearken to the words of him whom thou hearest always. May we sincerely and constantly love him in whom thou art well pleased. May we delight to honor him whom thou hast highly exalted. May we make him our pattern who did no sin, and did all things well. May we be united to him by a pure affection, a lively faith, and a willing obedience. In his name we supplicate thy spirit to mould our souls into the moral image of Christ.

We know not the events of a single day — whether joys or sorrows are before us; but we would keep in memory that in the midst of life we are in death. Prepare us to do and suffer all thy will with submission and fortitude. Give us such a measure of temporal prosperity as shall be most conducive to our eternal welfare.

Bless all our neighbours and connexions. Make the land in which we live more and more a land of light, liberty, and peace; a home for the stranger and friendless; an asylum for the oppressed. May all our schools of learning be nurseries of piety and virtue. Succour the tempted, sustain the tried, deliver those in peril. Guide the young in the forming period of their life, and support with thy merciful arm those stricken in years.

If it please thee, continue our life, health, and comforts till the evening, and then bring us together again to unite in worshipping thee; and whenever thou shalt take us out of the world, O wilt thou receive us into everlasting habitations.

Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, be all glory and praise forever. Amen.

FRIDAY EVENING.

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

PARENT of all mankind, and of all mercies; we acknowledge ourselves the creatures of thy hand, the subjects of thy government, and the pensioners on thy bounty. Thy paternal goodness has followed us, not only this, but all our days. By thy providence we are spared, and permitted again to approach thee in the exercises of devotion.

God of mercy, wilt thou show us thy mercy in pardoning our transgressions, in inclining our hearts to repentance, and to obey thy commandments. May we have that godly sorrow for sin which worketh life and peace. May we make it our great and earnest endeavour to live a sober, righteous, and pious life; to gain and keep the ascendancy over our appetites, desires, and passions; and what-

ever we do, in word or deed, to do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God, even the Father, by him. May those of us who have professed our faith in him so exhibit it in our tempers and characters, as to commend it to others. And if any of us are still living without hope and without God in the world, O wilt thou, by the matchless energy of thy spirit, open our eyes to see, and soften our hearts to feel our condition; and give us such convictions of sin as shall result in our conversion, and in our obtaining a good hope of pardon, sanctification, and complete redemption. Wilt thou adapt thy favors to our respective ages, characters, and wants. May we prove mutual comforts and blessings to each other.

Defend us and our dwelling from all danger this night. We would feel that we are not our own keepers, and would with filial dispositions rely on thy watchful care and thy protecting power. If another day be added to our lives, may it be consecrated to thee. If this night is to

be our last, O may a joyful resurrection morning dawn on our departing spirits. Whether living or dying may we be thine.

We pray for the interests of religion, for the society of which we are members, and for the pastor who watches over our spiritual welfare. Behold in mercy all the families of this place. Be nigh unto all who call upon thee in trouble. Be graciously nigh to the sick and sorrowful around us.

Our heart's desire and prayer to thee, O God, is, that all may come to the knowledge of the truth and be saved. Extend the social and religious advantages we enjoy to all nations, and may all men be brought to know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent; to whom be praise forever. Amen.

SATURDAY MORNING.

Whatsoever ye do, in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus; giving thanks to God, even the Father, by him.

O LORD, our heavenly Father, we would come unto thee, persuaded that to know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent, is life eternal. We desire now, and at all times, to exercise a living faith in thee and in thy Son, and through him to offer our prayers and intercessions, and to give thee the glory and homage that are due to thy great name.

O thou maker and preserver of men! Thou unsealest the eyelids of the morning, and thou hast opened our eyes to behold the light of another day. Thou takest care of all thy creatures. Thou satisfiest the wants of every living thing. So watchful is thine eye, so careful is thy providence, that without thee not a sparrow falleth to the ground, and the hairs of our head are

all numbered. O may we trust in thee at all times, and may thy wisdom guide us in the way of holiness. Strengthen and make us faithful in the duties, fortify us against the temptations, support us under the trials, and rescue us from the dangers of this day. May we cherish a deep sense of thy presence and inspection, so that we shall fear to offend, and seek to please thee. May we so spend the day, that we can review it without shame or remorse. In all our prosperity may we be grateful to thee, and generously remember those who are destitute. In all our adversity may we be patient and resigned, and cast our care upon thee.

Bless us as individuals and as a family. Strengthen and hallow the ties that bind us together. May we study to promote each others' virtue and happiness. If any of us are as yet without a saving faith and a holy hope, O wilt thou by thy grace and spirit convince and convert us, and bring our souls into a state of peace and salvation.

Bless our friends and neighbours, our rulers, and the ministers of the gospel. Look with favor upon all the churches of our Lord and Saviour. Wilt thou remove from them all false doctrine; and may they be found walking in the truth, and in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless. Extend the influences of Christianity, till all nations shall know thy name, and every heart rejoice in thy mercy.

Pardon, O Lord, our sins, and keep us in the love and service of thee this day. Now may grace, mercy, and peace descend upon each one of us from thee, the Father, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

SATURDAY EVENING.

Safely through another week
God has brought us on our way;
Let us now a blessing seek
On the approaching Sabbath day.

O God, who art a spirit, and seekest such to worship thee as will worship thee in spirit and in truth, teach us to render thee that true and spiritual worship which will be acceptable in thy sight. We would account it our highest privilege and chief joy to hold communion with thee by adoration and prayer. May these exercises enkindle our love, confirm our faith, and strengthen our virtuous resolutions. May the duties of religion never become tiresome and uninteresting to us. May we consider them as our life. O make each one of us deeply sensible of the worth of our souls, and of our need of that salvation which thou hast offered to us through the

mediation of thy Son. Grant us, O God, thy quickening, thy restraining, and thy saving grace. Help us to make daily improvement in knowledge, piety, and virtue. May we dread nothing so much as thy displeasure; may we desire nothing so much as thine approbation and blessing. Dispose us to imitate thee in all thine imitable perfections, and mould us into a moral likeness of him who was holy and harmless, and in whom thou art well pleased. Endue us with every Christian grace, clothe us with the robes of evangelical righteousness, and make us persevere in well-doing to the end of our course.

We thank thee, O our Father, for the protection and bounty of the closing day and week; for the privilege of reading thy word, and bringing our evening sacrifice to thee. Pardon whatever has been wrong in our dispositions and practice; and accept whatever thou hast seen of good in our desires and endeavours.

We are still dependent on thy care and grace. Preserve us while we sleep; and

if it be thy will that our eyes behold the light of another sacred morning, dispose us to enter upon its duties with a fervent and Christian spirit.

We pray for our friends and benefactors; may we never prove false nor ungrateful to them. We pray for those bound to us by kindred ties; may they share largely in thy favors, and be thine by adoption. We pray for the church and congregation with which we are connected, and for him who labors in the work of the ministry among us. Wilt thou succeed the means of grace we enjoy; and may pure religion here prevail and flourish. Enlighten the darkened mind, direct and relieve the anxious soul, and send thy peace into the troubled heart. Comfort those who mourn, supply those who are needy, restore those who are penitent, reclaim those who are sinful, and hasten the time when all who are in bondage shall be made free; when from all nations and from all hearts there shall ascend unto thee incense and a pure offering through Jesus Christ; to whom be praise forever. Amen.

MORNING PRAYER.

Thrice happy souls, who, born from heaven,
While yet they sojourn here,
Do all their days with God begin,
And spend them in his fear.

Our Father, who art in heaven! who hast been our guardian while we slept, and hast awakened us to behold and enjoy the light of this morning, we would, through Jesus Christ, present our bodies and souls to thee a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable, which is our reasonable service.

We thank thee for the privilege of again consulting the oracles of eternal truth. O may we not be forgetful hearers, but doers of thy word; remembering that not the hearers, but the doers of thy law are justified.

Remembering our frailties and imperfections, may we watch and pray, lest we fall into temptation. Grant that in all our business in life, and in all our intercourse

with the world, we may act with a wise reference to our everlasting good and to thy glory. Give us those daily mercies which thou seest that we need; and withhold from us all those things which would draw our affections from thee. Give to us a pure heart, a good conscience, a sober and well-disposed mind, a faith unfeigned, and a zeal according to knowledge. May we hate and shun every false way, and do that which is pleasing in thy sight. Support us under every burden, sustain us under every trial, and direct us in every duty. Let us not be flattered by the smiles, nor disheartened by the frowns of the world. Let us never trust in uncertain riches, nor put that confidence in man, which is due to thee alone. Dispose us to deal justly, to love mercy, and walk humbly with thee, our God. Inspire us with such a dread of thy judgments, and such a grateful sense of thy goodness to us, that we shall at all times be both ashamed and afraid to offend thee. Wilt thou rescue us from every threatening danger, and keep us by thy

mighty power through faith unto sa
tion.

We invoke thy blessing on all our e
deavours to know and do thy will.
whatever circumstances we may be placed
wilt thou shield and guide us.

Bless all the inhabitants of this town.
Are any poor, wilt thou supply their
wants. Are any sick, wilt thou grant
them healing mercies. Are any afflicted,
wilt thou give them the oil of joy for their
mourning, and the garment of praise for
their spirit of heaviness. Are any deceived
by error, and sunk in sin, wilt thou irradi-
ate their minds with celestial light, and
change their hearts by thy renewing grace.
Are any seeking the way of truth and
salvation, wilt thou lift upon them the
light of thy countenance and grant them
peace. Bless our beloved country; and
from the rising of the sun unto the going
down of the same, may thy name be great
among the gentiles; and in every land
may incense arise to thee, and a pure
offering, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

EVENING PRAYER.

Thus far the Lord has led us on;
  Thus far his power prolongs our days;
And every evening shall make known
  Some fresh memorials of his grace.

ALMIGHTY God, as by the thick shades of evening thou art concealing worldly objects from our view, so wilt thou call off our wandering thoughts from worldly and distracting cares, and help us to bring our hearts and souls into the service in which we are now engaged. May we remember, that, though man regardeth the outward appearance, the Lord looketh on the heart; that with thee, words without works, profession without practice, forms of godliness without its spirit and substance, are of no avail; that thou requirest not the bended knee, but the lowly mind and the submissive will — not the tearful eye and disfigured face, but the humble spirit and the contrite heart.

We thank thee, merciful Father, for those revelations which thou hast made to mankind, and in which thou hast unfolded thy character and purposes, and taught us what thou requirest of us that we may please thee and be happy forever. We thank thee for the gospel of peace and reconciliation, which thou hast published to the world by thine only begotten Son. In him, whether waking or sleeping, living or dying, may we be found.

Spare us to witness the dawning of another day, if it please thee. We ask not for a short nor a long, but a useful and pious life. We ask not for worldly wealth and honors; but that we may be made heirs of a heavenly inheritance, and be known as the followers of Jesus, and the friends of God. Shouldst thou visit us with sickness, may our souls still be in health; and should our outward man perish, may our inward man be renewed day by day.

Let us not envy, but compassionate sinners. Let not our eye be evil towards

those above us, nor scornful towards those below us. May virtuous examples excite our emulation, may scenes of vice fill us with abhorrence and grief. May the good encourage our piety, and may the wicked serve as beacons to guard us from sin. May we rejoice with those who are prosperous, and sympathise with the afflicted. Give us just and enlarged views of all the relations we sustain to our fellow-beings, and prompt us to discharge the duties which grow out of them with fidelity and zeal. Keep us ever mindful of our connexion not only with time, but also with eternity; and assist us so to pass through this vale of tears, that we may at length make our lasting abode in the paradise of God.

Be pleased, Father of mercies, to show thy favor to all men. O may every heart be converted by thy grace, warmed by thy love, filled with thy spirit, and every tongue be vocal with thy praise; which we ask in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

MORNING PRAYER.

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance.

O HOLY and righteous Father, source of all wisdom, truth, and goodness, who dwellest in light and glory! in the morning shalt thou hear our voice. To thee will we direct our meditation and prayer, and look up. Thou hast invigorated our powers of body and of mind by rest and sleep, and we again dedicate them to thy service.

We would come with a holy boldness to thy mercy-seat in the name of the Mediator, and offer thee our fervent prayer and grateful praise. We thank thee for thine infinite goodness, indicated by thy works of creation, declared by thy word, and manifested by thy Son. We thank thee for all our social, intellectual, and moral powers; for all that we are by nature, and for all

that we may become by education and grace. Thou hast granted us the gift of speech; may it ever be our delight to speak thy praise. Thou hast given us the power of memory; O may we remember thee. Thou hast given us reason; may we employ this noble faculty in the acquisition of truth and virtue. Thou hast given us conscience; O may it be enlightened by thy word, and kept tender and inviolate. Thou hast made us capable of endless progress in knowledge and holiness; O may we never rest satisfied with any present attainments in truth and goodness; but, forgetting the things that are behind, may we press forward toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Knowing thy readiness to give the holy spirit to them that ask thee, may we seek its influences and obey its suggestions. Assured that thou workest in us both to will and to do of thy good pleasure, may we work out our own salvation with fear and trembling. May Christ be formed in us, the hope of glory. May we so confess

him on earth, that he will confess us in heaven. Help us to gain the victory over all our appetites and passions. Knowing that earthly riches take to themselves wings and fly away; that we brought nothing into the world, and can carry nothing out of it, may we lay up our treasure in the heavens. Taught, that this is not our home, that we have here no abiding place, may we seek a city that hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God. Knowing that it is appointed unto all men once to die, and after that the judgment, may we so live, as we shall wish we had, when we come to die, and so die that we may meet thee in peace.

To our prayers for ourselves we join intercessions for the whole human family. Be thou a benefactor to the poor, a physician to the sick, a comforter to the sorrowing, a friend and deliverer to all the oppressed. Instruct the ignorant in useful knowledge, enlighten the morally blind, and may the gospel of the blessed God go forth into all lands, banishing error by its

truth, scattering darkness by its light, inspiring faith, enkindling hope, exciting virtue and piety, cheering and sanctifying all hearts, and saving all souls. And may the predicted time draw near and come, when at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow, and every tongue confess him Lord, to the glory of thee, the Father. Amen.

EVENING PRAYER.

Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray and cry aloud, and he shall hear my voice.

O THOU, who hast drawn around us the curtains of another evening in mercy, and hast been our strength and preserver through the day, we desire to cherish such a deep sense of our dependence on thee, and of thy great goodness to us, that we shall be truly grateful. May a sense of our unworthiness make us humble; and may we so feel the burden of our sins as to render us sincerely penitent. We rejoice that to the Lord our God belong mercies and forgiveness; that thou desirest not the death of the sinner, but rather that he turn and live. We earnestly implore the aids of thy grace, which thou hast revealed and dost communicate to the world through Jesus Christ. Grant to us such temporal blessings as are best for us; and make us

contented and resigned. Hide not thy commandment from us. Grant us spiritual blessings. Increase our virtues. Give us livelier perceptions of duty; more courage and power to resist temptations; a more ardent zeal; a more active faith; a more tender conscience; a brighter hope; a more filial trust; a more submissive will; a more holy and constant obedience.

We thank thee for the inestimable privilege of reading thy word from day to day. O may it be ingrafted in our hearts, and bring forth in us the fruits of holy living. Quicken our consciences; deepen holy impressions; strengthen holy resolutions. May we love religion. May we love Jesus. May we love thee with a pure and supreme love, and serve thee with a filial obedience.

Without thee, O God, we could not exist; without thy favor we cannot be happy. Save us from the perils of the night. Let nothing disturb our repose; and when we awake, let us not forget that we have laid down and slept and have been refreshed because thou hast sustained us.

While we are indulged with health, we would remember those visited with sickness; while our cup with plenty runneth over, we would remember those who are famished for bread, and pinched with cold; while we enjoy gospel light and liberty, we would remember those who are perishing for lack of vision, and groaning in bondage. O wilt thou supply their every need of body and of soul.

Reward all who have done us good; forgive all who have done us evil. Graciously hear those who intercede for us in prayer, and hear our intercessions for them. Shed down thy heavenly light upon heathen lands; and may the whole earth be filled with the knowledge and glory of God; and may the kingdom of the Redeemer be built up; and through him may worship be paid by all mankind to thee, who art God over all, blessed forevermore. Amen.

MORNING PRAYER.

Watch ye, therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all those things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man.

O God, who art from everlasting to everlasting, the same powerful, wise, holy, and good being; we acknowledge thee to be the Lord of heaven and of earth, our sovereign, lawgiver, and judge. By thee actions are weighed; and thou art the searcher of the heart. We thank thee for thy transcendent love in the gift of thy dear Son. Through him, as the glorious Mediator, would we humbly and devoutly approach thy mercy-seat, and present to thee, the God of our life, the lengthener of our day, and the bestower of all our comforts and blessings, our united offerings of gratitude and prayer. Thou, who never slumberest nor sleepest, hast watched over us, and given us quiet repose; and now thou art

favoring us with the comforts of another morning. We thank thee for thy forbearance, thy long-suffering, and gentleness towards us. Make us unfeignedly thankful for thy goodness, truly penitent for our sins, and more cautious and steadfast in future. May we often review our conduct, and grow wiser and better by our past experience. May we make continual progress in the Christian life; daily striving for a more complete victory over our appetites and passions, and a greater conformity in disposition and character to thy holy will.

Grant thy blessing upon every member of this family, and upon all the inhabitants of this town. May those who have named the name of Christ depart from iniquity. May those who believe in God be careful to maintain good works. May sinners be converted, and walk before thee in newness of life. May the ministers of our holy religion be faithful in the discharge of their duty, and wilt thou prosper the work of their hands. We pray for all in poverty, sickness, and sorrow. Wilt thou merci-

fully grant them such favors as their circumstances require.

Direct and support us while we live; and when we die, receive us into heavenly mansions, through thy mercy in Jesus Christ. Amen.

EVENING PRAYER.

Cornelius was a devout man, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God always.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful God, who hast been our defence during the day, we come before thee, as disciples of Jesus Christ, to acknowledge thy goodness, and to implore a continuance of it. We thank thee for all the temporal and for all the spiritual favors thou hast conferred upon us. O make us duly feel our obligations to love and serve thee, and to own and follow thy Son, who has left us not only his pure precepts, but also his pure example. May none of us turn a deaf ear to the instructions of him who speaketh from heaven, and hath the words of eternal life.

Dispose us every evening, before we shut our eyes in sleep, to examine our-

selves, and to exercise repentance for all the sins we have committed, so that we may go to our rest at peace with thee and with our own consciences.

Wilt thou preserve us through the watches of the night, and give to us the repose which our nature demands.

We intercede with thee for all our brethren of mankind. Wilt thou feed the hungry, clothe the naked, heal the sick, relieve the distressed, send deliverance to the captive, unbind the heavy burden, and let the millions of thy children who are wrongfully kept in bondage go free. Be with all who are employed in works of humanity and mercy. Endue them with heavenly wisdom and divine strength; give abundant success to their generous enterprises and labors; and may the blessing of those ready to perish come upon them. Be with all who are preaching the gospel in heathen lands; and O wilt thou make them wise to win souls.

Wilt thou bless all those who have at any time requested a remembrance in our

prayers; and wilt thou graciously regard all those who pray for us.

Almighty Father, assist us so to live, that when we die we may inherit the blessedness of those who die in the Lord, who rest from their labors, and their works do follow them. We offer these our prayers through him who is the resurrection and the life. Amen.

MORNING PRAYER.

To prayer, to prayer! for the morning breaks,
And earth in her Maker's smiles awakes.
His light is on all below and above—
The light of gladness, and life, and love.
O, then, on the breath of this early air,
Send upward the incense of grateful prayer.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful God, the contriver, the maker, and upholder of all worlds, on whom all beings wait, and all creatures depend! we would come to thee, believing that thou art, and that thou art the rewarder of all those who diligently seek thee. We thank thee for thy preserving goodness till the present time. Dispose us to dedicate the life thou hast given, and art thus prolonging, to thee and to thy service.

Thy law, O Lord, is perfect, converting the soul. May it have this effect on every soul now in thy presence. Thy commandment is pure, enlightening the eyes. O

may it remove our moral blindness; and may we inherit the blessedness of the pure in heart, who see God. Thy service is perfect freedom, and in keeping thy commandments there is great reward. May we ever regard sin as our worst enemy; and seek divine truth, virtue, and purity, as our only means of happiness. So long as it shall please thee to continue us in this world, may the world be benefited by our existence in it. Prepare us for all the various trials through which we are to pass. Let not prosperity make us proud, and forgetful of thee; let not adversity fill us with impatience and repining. In poverty may we be content; in sickness, submissive and uncomplaining; in death, resigned to thy will, and trusting in thy mercy. May we be unduly anxious for nothing; but in all things, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, make known our requests unto God. Give us the spirit of adoption, so that we may always come to thee, as children to a father. Give us the spirit of Christ; and may we walk together as

heirs of the grace of life. May we have such a fear of thee that we shall have courage and boldness to withstand all the wiles of the adversary. Let not sin reign in our mortal bodies. Give us that faith which works by love, and that hope which shall never make us ashamed. May we be faithful unto death, and receive a crown of life.

Sovereign of the universe, may thy blessing descend and rest upon all who are appointed to make and execute our laws; and wilt thou so overrule all the affairs of our nation, that order, harmony, peace, virtue, and religion shall be prevalent among us. Wilt thou bless all those institutions established for the suppression of intemperance; for the relief of the poor and afflicted; for the reformation of the vicious; for the protection of the artless and innocent; for the furtherance of the cause of civil and religious freedom, and of peace and truth. Be the guardian and guide of those who are laboring for the spread of the gospel in heathen lands.

Put an end to delusion and error, superstition and idolatry; and may all nations and all men know and acknowledge thee, and him whom thou hast sent, Jesus Christ.

EVENING PRAYER.

To prayer! for the glorious sun is gone,
And the gathering darkness of night comes on.
Like a curtain from God's kind hand it flows
To shade the couch where his children repose.
Then kneel, while the watching stars are bright,
And give your last thoughts to the Guardian of night.

O God, our Father, who art the fountain of wisdom and blessedness, we desire so to love thee as to be known of thee as thy children. Thou hast made thy goodness pass before us continually. Every morning and every evening we have fresh experience of thy loving-kindness. O that it might be our earnest inquiry, what shall we render unto the Lord for all his benefits?

We thank thee for the shades and retirement of another evening, which brings us again around the family altar for adoration and prayer, and for another opportunity to read and hear thy word. May its truths

sink deep into each of our hearts, and be as seed sown on good ground, springing up and bearing the fruits of righteousness and piety. May we embrace its doctrines with a strong and living faith. May its precepts guide, may its motives influence our conduct. Suffer us not to rest in a dead faith, a false hope, or a disobedient love. Suffer us not to be ashamed of Christ, nor to deny him. May we show that we are his friends, by doing what he says; and, that we love him, by keeping his commandments. If any of us have not as yet owned him, wilt thou constrain us to attend to the things that belong to our peace. Let not thy forbearance tempt us to delay our conversion; suffer us not to continue in sin, because grace abounds. May even thy goodness lead us to repentance.

Known unto thee are our peculiar temptations and trials; wilt thou adapt thy mercies to our wants. Give us thy holy spirit to help our infirmities.

With adoring thoughts would we meditate on that grace and kindness which thou

hast manifested to the world in thy Son, our Saviour. O let it not be in vain, and worse than in vain to any one of us, that Jesus Christ has suffered and died. May we remember the uncertainty of life, and the certainty of death; and that thou wilt bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil. O Lord, while the day of grace lasts, make us the subjects of thy grace. While the door of mercy is open, may we seek admission into the kingdom of God. While our term of probation is lengthened out, may we prepare for the retributions of eternity.

Hear our prayer for the prosperity of religion, for the purification and enlargement of the church of Christ; for the complete victory of Christianity over every species of atheism, infidelity, error, and sin. O wilt thou remove from the professed followers of the Prince of Peace, all prejudice, uncharitableness, and spiritual pride. May believers show to the world that they are disciples of Jesus by loving one another.

O God, bless the means of grace which are here enjoyed. Arouse the stupid to a sense of their danger. Guide those who are inquiring what they must do to be saved. Bless all Christian pastors and teachers. May they be faithful to their Master, and faithful to their flocks; and may we esteem them very highly in love for their works' sake.

Hear our intercessions for the young, the aged, the sick, and the afflicted; for those in great danger, whether by sea or land; for those in captivity and servitude.

To thy guardian care we commend and commit ourselves, thou faithful Creator, and to thy holy name, through Jesus Christ, we ascribe everlasting praise. Amen.

CHRISTMAS.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father! Thou art the God of glory and the God of grace. We thank thee that thou didst create man in thine own image and for thy service; that thou didst endue him with social and moral powers, and with an immortal nature; that thou hast made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth; that thou hast never left thyself without witness, but hast done thy children good, giving them rain and fruitful seasons, filling their hearts with food and gladness.

We thank thee, that, when man had by transgression forfeited thy favor, thou wast still merciful; that, when moral and religious darkness covered the people, thou didst cause thy sun of righteousness to

arise with healing in his beams. We thank thee, that thou, who didst speak to the fathers by the prophets, didst send thy Son into the world to enlighten, to sanctify, and save it.

On this glad day, we would join with the millions of our Christian brethren, in praising thee for the provision, the promise, and birth of a Saviour,—for all those prophecies which preceded, and for all those wonderful circumstances which accompanied and followed his glorious advent. We rejoice that there is proclaimed peace on earth and good-will to men; that there is no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus. We rejoice that we live in a Christian land, and that our ears have heard the glad tidings of salvation. We thank thee for the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ; for his wonderful works; for his life-giving words; for his precious hopes and promises; for his spotless example; for all his labors and sufferings to reform and save mankind.

Dispose each one of us to believe, own, obey, and imitate him; and may we be partakers of the redemption there is in Christ.

We thank thee for all the good Christianity has already done. We rejoice in the hope and prospect of what it is still to do. O wilt thou hasten the time, when the Saviour's name shall be known and reverenced by all mankind. Bless all the churches of our Lord Jesus Christ, and all the preachers of his gospel. Endue them with that wisdom, truth, and charity, which shall qualify them for their important office.

Merciful God, pardon our sins; and continue to us thy providential care and gracious aid, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

GOOD FRIDAY.

He hath poured out his soul unto death; and he was numbered with the transgressors, and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Most merciful God, who didst so love the world as to give thy Son to declare and communicate thy grace; to suffer and die for us; to bless us in turning us away from our iniquities; we desire at this time to call into lively and grateful remembrance the passion, the sufferings, and death of the Saviour. May we be deeply affected by this wonderful display of divine love and mercy. O may we so meditate on the sufferings and crucifixion of our Lord, and may our hearts be so touched by a view of this moving scene, that we shall be willing to suffer the loss of all things that we may win Christ. May it have such an influence upon us that the world shall be crucified to us, and we to the world.

God forbid that we should glory, save in the cross of Christ. O when we contemplate the Saviour agonizing and praying in the garden of Gethsemane; betrayed by one of his disciples, forsaken by all; arraigned, condemned, mocked, buffeted, scourged; now bearing his cross, now bleeding and dying upon it; O may our love of vanity and sin be destroyed; our faith in Jesus confirmed, and our warmest gratitude to him excited. May we be united to him by the purest affection and the most constant obedience. May we bear our cross, die to sin, and live to holiness.

Thy beloved Son humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross; O give us a humble mind and an obedient heart. He prayed even for his murderers; O dispose us to be meek and lowly, mild and merciful. He, for the joy set before him, endured the cross, despising the shame; O let us never be ashamed of him, or of his word. Looking to Jesus, may we endure temptations, trials,

persecutions, and tribulations, and come off conquerors and more than conquerors through him who hath loved us and given himself for us. May his sufferings and death exert all their designed influences on our hearts and lives. Prepare us for every trying scene and every afflictive event; and when we are called to die, enable and prompt us to say, Not my will, but thine be done. Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit.

We commend to thy care and protection all who suffer for Christ's sake. We pray that the time may come when the gospel shall enlighten all men, and guide them into the way of holiness and salvation.

O God, grant us thy grace while we live; and when we die, receive us into thy heavenly kingdom, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

EASTER.

Now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept.

O God, who art the former of our bodies and father of our spirits, we desire now, through him who is the way, and the truth, and the life, to give honor and glory, thanksgiving and praise to thee, for thy great goodness manifested in our creation, in our preservation, and especially in our day and means of grace and hopes of eternal blessedness. We would account it a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. We thank thee that when he was crucified, dead, and buried, thou by thy mighty power didst raise him from the dead, thereby attesting the divinity of his mission, sealing the truth of his doctrines, and giving us a pledge of our own resurrection and future life. We rejoice that thou hast abolished death, and brought

life and immortality to light. Blessed art thou, God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to thine abundant mercy hast begotten us again to a lively hope, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for us. We would rejoice in the belief that now Christ is risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept; and that all who sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. We rejoice in the belief of his triumph over the grave, his glorious ascension into heaven, and his exaltation at thy right hand, and that he is able to save to the uttermost all who come unto God by him.

O may we awake from the slumberings of a guilty conscience, from the dreams of earthly pleasures, and from the drowsiness of a worldly and slothful spirit, to a life of prayer, of penitence, of faith, and holiness. May our affections and desires rise from things seen to the things unseen, from earth to heaven. Inspire us with that hope

which entereth into that within the veil. Give us a spiritual mind. Persuade us to seek another and better country, even an heavenly; and to live by faith in the Son of God. O give us an unwavering faith and a well grounded hope in a crucified, risen, ascended, exalted, and ever living Saviour.

Wilt thou regard with compassion those in heathen lands. Wilt thou remove every hindrance to the universal spread and reception of the gospel; and may the kingdoms of the world become the peaceful and happy kingdoms of Jesus Christ.

O God, bestow upon each one of us that grace and mercy which we need, and when we are absent from the body, may we be present with the Lord. These our prayers we offer to thee through him who is the resurrection and the life, to whom be glory and praise forever. Amen.

THANKSGIVING.

Giving thanks always for all things unto God even the Father, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

ALMIGHTY God, we adore thee as our Creator, Preserver, and constant Benefactor. We, thy dependent children, desire on this day to join with our brethren in rendering thanksgiving and praise to thee. Thou art good, and thou doest good continually. The earth, O Lord, is full of thy riches; and so also is the great and wide sea. Thou art good unto all, and thy tender mercies

spring, and the joys of autumn. Thou, O God, causest the earth to yield her increase; thou givest us fruitful seasons, and crownest the labors of the husbandman with thy blessing.

We would trace all our temporal as well as spiritual favors to thee, the source of all good. We thank thee for all the comforts and conveniences of life with which we are surrounded.

O Parent of mercies, dispose us to manifest our gratitude to thee, not only by the language of our lips, but by the actions of our lives. Impress us with a deep sense of our dependence on thee for all things, and of our obligations to love thee with all our hearts, and serve thee with all our powers.

While we enjoy thy bounty, may we remember the poor and needy, and show our thankfulness to thee by charity to them. Supply the wants of the destitute, and comfort all who are in trouble.

Wilt thou bless all the inhabitants of this state and those in authority over us.

Creator and Governor of the universe, wilt thou bless the president of these United States, and all those who are appointed to watch over our national welfare. Endue them largely with those gifts and graces which shall qualify them for their important and responsible stations.

We pray for all mankind. May truth and holiness, peace and charity, gospel light and civil and religious liberty, universally prevail. Hear, O Lord, our prayer, and accept our praise, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

FAST.

Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

Most merciful Father, we thank thee, that by the mouth of thine ancient prophets thou didst reveal thyself as a prayer-hearing and a sin-forgiving God; didst declare thyself gracious and merciful, not desiring the death of the sinner, but rather that he turn and live. We thank thee also for the greater and more affecting manifestations of thy love and mercy, which thou hast made through thy Son, our Saviour.

Not in our own, but in the name of Christ, would we approach thy throne of grace, acknowledging our unworthiness and guilt, and imploring the aid of thy spirit, and thy pardoning mercy.

O dispose each one of us, on this day, set apart for acts of fasting, humiliation, and

prayer, to examine our hearts, to search and try our ways, and turn to thee, the Lord. Excite in us deep contrition, and lead us to sincere repentance for all our sins. If in seasons past we have disregarded thine authority, slighted thy word, disobeyed thy law, neglected thine ordinances, and abused thy grace, O forgive us. If we have loved the creature more than the Creator, if we have loved the praise of men more than the praise of God, if we have given our hearts to the world, and not set our affections on things above, O make us penitent and pardon us.

If we have been deaf to the invitations of the Saviour, and refused to own and follow him, O fill our hearts with that godly sorrow which worketh life and peace.

If we have been wanting in justice and charity to men, and piety to thee, if we have yielded to temptation, if we have disregarded the voice of conscience, if we have resisted thy spirit, O enable and dispose us by thy grace to reform.

Give us thy holy spirit. May we exercise that repentance which will restore us to thy favor; and may we in future be mindful of our obligations and dependence.

We would resolve by thy grace assisting us, in time to come, to be more circumspect and watchful, more holy and useful. Wilt thou, O God, who knowest our frailties, and our proneness to go astray, endue us with that moral power and courage that will enable us to overcome all our spiritual adversaries, and live obedient and conformed to thy most holy will.

To our prayers for ourselves we would add intercessions for all the inhabitants of this town and state, and for all those who make and execute our laws. Bless our country, and all our civil rulers. May we seek that righteousness which exalts a nation, and avoid sin which is a reproach to any people.

May the ignorant become savingly wise; may those in error be taught thy truth; may the intemperate form habits of sobriety;

may the profane and sinful become holy and reverential; may the rich be grateful and generous; the poor, prudent and contented; may the bewildered and disconsolate find peace and joy; and those in bondage be set free. O may thy Sabbaths be kept, thy word prized, thine ordinances observed, thy laws obeyed, thy name reverenced, thy providence owned and trusted, thy Son honored and loved, and his gospel received by all thine intelligent offspring.

Order in mercy the seasons of the year. And in all the events and circumstances of our lives may we remember our relations and accountableness to thee.

We pray that the gospel of Christ may enlighten, purify, and save all nations; and that the kingdoms of this world may become the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour, through whom to thee be glory forever. Amen.

A NEW YEAR.

O Lord of life and seasons! we
Our sole reliance place on thee;
In thee we trust with holy fear,
And bless thee for the new-born year.

O God, by whose watchful providence we have been spared to the beginning of [another day, and of] another year, we desire to call to grateful remembrance all thy dealings towards us, and to thank thee for the favorable circumstances under which we are permitted to commence this new year. Whose hand but thine should we acknowledge in the preservation of our lives till now; and to whom but thee, our adorable Father, should we look for help and grace in every future time of need? To whom should we again dedicate ourselves, but to thee, whom we have never sought in vain, and whose mercy faileth not?

We know not the evil nor the good, which this year may bring us. We know

not what shall be on the morrow. Our lives and our times are in thy hand. With thee there is no beginning of days nor end of years. Thou ever livest and reignest God alone.

O dispose us, as individuals and as a family, now solemnly to renew our engagements to love and serve thee. May we piously resolve to choose thee for our portion, and to give thee our hearts. If it please thee, spare our lives and our health, and prosper us in our temporal and spiritual concerns. Shouldst thou continue us in being through this year, may we spend it in working the works of him who sent us into the world. May none of our time be wasted. May none of our opportunities for usefulness be neglected. May every duty be performed with fidelity and cheerfulness. May every trial be endured with patience. May every temptation be successfully resisted.

In our intercourse with the world may we be just and benevolent, and exhibit the dispositions of Christians. Save us from

folly, discontent, and pride. Let not those above us excite our envy, nor those below us, our contempt. May we emulate the virtues of the good, and shun the vices of the evil. May the piety of thy children give us joy, and the transgressions of those who keep not thy word fill us with grief. Let not the irreligious shake our faith, nor scenes of vice harden our hearts. May all the blessings, thou grantest us this year, be duly acknowledged and piously employed. Shouldst thou give us health, may we be diligent and industrious; shouldst thou visit us with misfortunes, sickness, or sorrow, O let us not murmur, but acquiesce in all thy dealings.

May this year find us more earnestly engaged in religion than we have been; more frequent and fervent in prayer; more useful in the service of our Master. O may we remember how important the race is, we are called to run; how arduous the warfare, in which we are enlisted; how great the prize, held out for us to win. O may nothing beguile us of our reward, nor rob us of our hope of heavenly joy.

If, before this year ends, our mortal course be finished, may we be prepared to leave this world in peace, and enter the world of spirits with joy. Aid us in all our virtuous and pious endeavours, and assist us to abstain from every appearance of evil. O Lord, let thy mercy be upon us, as our hope is in thee.

Send down thy blessings both temporal and spiritual on all our connexions. Give efficacy to thy word where it is preached; and convey its light and truth to those in error and darkness. We pray for all in authority over us, for our native land, and for all mankind. . Now may grace, mercy, and peace, from thee the Father, through Christ our Lord, be with us forever. Amen.

CLOSE OF THE YEAR.

The year rolls round, and steals away
The breath that first it gave;
Whate'er we do, where'er we be,
We 're hastening to the grave.

Heavenly Father! in the name of thy Son, would we come around our family altar to acknowledge and worship thee. Thy kind providence has guarded, thy bounty has nourished us, to the close of another year. Thou hast redeemed our life from destruction and hast crowned the year with thy loving-kindness and tender mercy. Hitherto thou hast helped us. Amidst all the dangers to which we have been exposed, thou hast been our ark of safety. In all our cares and toils, thou hast been our support. In all our troubles, thou hast been our consolation. We devoutly thank thee for all the health and happiness we have enjoyed, for all the advantages with which we have been favored, and for all

the prosperity that has attended our course. We desire to be grateful to thee for all those blessings thou hast conferred upon us, as a family, as social beings, and as Christians.

O Lord, accept the offering of gratitude we bring thee for thy goodness through the past year. Wilt thou also pardon our sins. Wherein we have perverted our talents, misemployed our time, abused thy mercies, distrusted thy providence, or disregarded its admonitions; wherein we have neglected our means of grace, our duties to thee, to the Saviour, or to our fellow-men; wilt thou mercifully pardon us.

Sanctify to us all our past joys, and all our past sorrows.

If any of us are still living in sin, strangers to thee, and to the covenant of promise, O dispose us by thy good spirit to exercise true and timely faith and repentance.

Remembering how thou hast cared for us in seasons past, may we cast our care upon thee for seasons to come. Mindful of our past failings, may we be sober and

watch unto prayer. Prepare us for every scene, whether of joy or of sorrow, through which we may be called to pass. If it please thee, spare us during this night and bring us to the commencement of another year, and may we then dedicate ourselves again to thee.

Bless our friends. Forgive, if we have any, our enemies. Watch over the interests of our country, and extend the blessings of liberty and gospel truth to all thy children. May thy kingdom come, and thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

GRACE BEORE MEAT.

Paul took bread and gave thanks to God, in presence of them all.

HEAVENLY Father, we acknowledge thy hand in these provisions for our temporal wants. Bless them to our strength and nourishment, and incline us to love, praise, and serve thee, as disciples of Jesus Christ.

GRACE AFTER MEAT.

WE thank thee, O God, that we have again been fed by thy bountiful kindness. May all thy goodness fill us with joy and gratitude, and persuade us to a filial obedience of all thy commands; which we ask in the name of Christ our Lord.

GRACE BEFORE MEAT.

GRANT, O God, thy blessing upon us and upon these fruits of thy bounty. May we receive all thy favors with grateful hearts, and live to thy glory, and by faith in Jesus Christ.

GRACE AFTER MEAT.

FATHER in heaven, we thank thee for these mercies and for all thy former care and kindness; and pray that thou wouldst supply the temporal and spiritual wants of all thy children, through Jesus Christ.

FOR A SICK PERSON.

God will be very gracious unto thee at the voice of thy cry; when he shall hear it, he will answer thee.

O Lord, our heavenly Father! Thou art a God of grace and of pity. Thou art our refuge in times of danger, our help in times of distress. In thy hand is the soul of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind. With thee all things are possible. Thou art nigh unto all that call upon thee in trouble; and comfortest them that are cast down.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we entreat thee to hear our prayer for thy servant who is now dangerously sick. If it please thee, direct us to the use of those means which by thy blessing shall be made effectual in restoring *him* to health. Enable us to perform all our duties to *him*, sensible of our dependence on thee, and trusting in thy providence. Give *him* patience under all

his pains, and help *him* to bear all *his* trials with a filial submission to thy will. Shouldst thou appoint unto *him* many wearisome days and nights, may thy grace be sufficient for *him*. If it please thee, spare *him* a little longer, and restore *him*. If it please thee, let not *his* sickness be unto death. But whether it be unto death or not, may it be to thy glory, and to *his* spiritual and eternal good. Whatever may be the event, may we be enabled to say from the heart, Father, not my will, but thine, be done.

We plead for the health of *his* body; but more earnestly for the health of *his* soul. Give *him* divine light and strength, that inward peace which the world cannot give. Pardon all *his* sins, and inspire *him* with a living faith, and a holy and heavenly hope. May thy love be shed abroad in *his* heart; surround *him* with thy care and presence; and dispose *him* to commend his body and soul to thy hands.

If *he* is permitted to live, may *his* life be devoted to thee; if *he* is soon to die, may *he* die in the Lord, and may death be *his* gain.

O graciously prepare *him;* and prepare us for all the events of thy providence; and for every scene whether of joy, or of sorrow, through which we may be called to pass. May we be resigned and conformed to thy will; and may we so love, believe, and serve thee, and thy Son, that we shall find support and comfort in all our troubles, and that all things shall work together for our good. Hear our prayers for all who are sick and afflicted; and send them all needed relief. O God, may thy providence be our guard, and thy spirit our guide through this world; and when we are called away from earth, may we be admitted into the unceasing joys of Heaven; through riches of grace in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ON RESTORATION TO HEALTH.

I was brought low, and he helped me.

O God, thou art our Father; and in thee we live, and move, and have our being. We will praise thee, for we are fearfully and wonderfully made. We will bless thee, for we are kindly and providentially sustained. In the name of thy dear Son, our Saviour, we come to thy mercy-seat, to bring thee an offering of gratitude and praise. Thou hast put a song of gladness into our hearts. Thou hast changed our darkness into light, and our sorrow into joy. Thou hast relieved us from our cares, and fears, and anxieties, and spoken peace to our disquieted breasts. Thou hast removed our pain and sufferings, strengthened our weakness, and healed our diseases. In trouble and danger thou hast been our help and deliverer. Thou hast visited us with thy healing mercies. We thank thee, O

Father, that thou hast restored the sick; and that we are now in the possession and enjoyment of so many privileges and blessings.

As we now own thy hand in this continuance of life and restoration to health, so let us never forget thy great goodness to us; nor the impressions and resolutions made in our time of trouble. May we in future have a deeper sense of our dependence; a more filial trust in thy providence; more earnest and constant desires to walk before thee in the land of the living; and to glorify thee with our bodies and our spirits, which are thine by creation and preservation.

May we henceforth set a juster value on our life, our time, our advantages, and blessings. May the life thou hast mercifully prolonged, and the health and strength thou hast graciously renewed, be entirely devoted to thee and to thy service. May both our sickness and returning health be sanctified to us, to our increase in faith, in virtue, and in holiness.

Since it has pleased thee to lengthen out our day of probation, may we wisely and piously employ it to thy glory, to the advancement of true religion, and to the good of our fellow-men.

O may thy servant, whom thou hast graciously healed, acknowledge thee in this joyful event; and give *his* heart, and consecrate *his* life to thee, *his* preserver. May *he* take the cup of salvation, and call on the name of the Lord. Give *him* thy spirit to guide and sanctify *him;* and so long as *he* is continued in the world, dispose *him* to obey the precepts and follow the example of Jesus Christ.

Prepare each one of us for all our trials; may they all quicken our faith and piety; and bring us nearer and nearer to thee. Hear our prayer for all the sons and daughters of sorrow; and send relief to all in trouble.

May our past sickness remind us of the frailty of our frame, and the uncertainty of life. Teach us so to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom;

and may we so glorify thee on the earth, that we shall enjoy thy glorious and blissful presence in heaven. We offer this our prayer, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

FOR A SICK CHILD.

Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me; nevertheless, not my will, but thine be done.

O God, who art the giver of life, and of every good gift; in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ would we now lift up our souls to thee in earnest prayer. Thou knowest our wants, sufferings, and dangers, and thou knowest what is best for us. Regard us with thy compassion, grieved for the distress, and anxious for the life of our little child. O let our cry come up before thee. If it be thy will, O Father, spare the life, and restore the health of the child. O grant thy healing mercies, and take not from us this dear object of our love, but give it strength and activity, and let it grow up a comfort and blessing to us, and a monument of thy grace and kindness. But shouldst thou call it hence, O teach us to submit to thy will; and, in the exercise of a Christian faith and hope, to surrender it

into thy hands, assured that, however painful the event may be to us, it will be well with the child.

Shouldst thou continue it to us, may we feel our obligations to devote it to thee, and to train it up in the way of wisdom and virtue. Shouldst thou remove it, wilt thou receive it into thy kingdom of light and glory; and may the bereavement be blest to our spiritual good. We commend its body and soul, and ourselves also, to thee; beseeching thee to prepare us for all the changes and trials of this world, and for an endless state of being and happiness in the world to come. Hear us, O Father, in this our prayer, through thy mercy in Jesus Christ. Amen.

ON THE DEATH OF A CHILD.

The child is not; and I, whither shall I go?

Our Father, who art in heaven! through Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, we come to offer our prayer and supplication to thee. O may thy light scatter our darkness, and thy spirit guide us in our communion with thee. We would not dispute thine authority, but own it with reverence. We would not strive against thy will, but submit to it in all things. We would not doubt thy wisdom and goodness, but piously believe that righteous and true are all thy dealings. Thou gavest us the child whose death we now lament, and thou hast taken it away. Help us to say, Blessed be thy name! Thy will be done!

Known unto thee are the sorrows of parents for their departed children. Look with pity on the pain we feel by this bereavement, and with indulgence on the

lamentation we make on account of this disappointed hope. But let not our affliction for the dead disqualify us for our duties to the living; nor our grief be inconsistent with a lively faith in thy word and promises, and a filial trust in thy providence. While we see the face of the child no more, may we still believe that it is seen and surrounded by thee. While we feel our loss, may we think of the child's gain; and while we regret its absence from our fond embraces, may we entertain the soothing hope that it is gone to its heavenly Father, and to that Saviour, who, when on earth, took little children into his arms and blessed them; and said, Suffer the little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me, for of such is the kingdom of heaven.

We would not in this season of adversity forget all our former mercies; nor be unmindful of those many comforts which thou art even now bestowing upon us. Thy blessings surround us still; and we would especially thank thee, at this time, for those means of grace, and for those sources of

consolation, which thy goodness doth grant us. O may every afflictive scene show us more and more of the importance and comforts of religion. O may we prize thy holy word, and love it exceedingly. May it be our light in every season of darkness; our guide through the wilderness of this world; and may it acquaint us with a hope full of a glorious immortality. May it lead us to an all-sufficient Saviour, to an unfailing Friend, and a heavenly inheritance. Taught, in so affecting a manner, that our time is short, that here we have no continuing city, that earthly possessions fail, and earthly ties and attachments are liable to be broken, and cannot last, may we seek an enduring substance, and spend our days in those exercises and duties which belong to us, as accountable beings and Christians. May our whole life be a preparation for death; and may we so believe in and follow Jesus Christ, that, when we are absent from the body, we may still live with him.

Hear our prayer for all the sick and afflicted; and support and comfort them;

and teach them, by the sufferings and sorrows of this world, to choose that good part which shall never be taken away from them; and to seek a city that hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God. Hear us in this our prayer, through thy great mercy in the Saviour. Amen.

ON THE DEATH OF A PARENT.

To be used by the survivor, with the family.

I will not leave you comfortless.

O God, we thank thee that in the name of Jesus Christ we may approach thee, as our Father and our Friend. Dispose each one of us now in the season of our affliction to receive counsel and direction from thy holy word, and with devout hearts to embrace the doctrines and promises of the blessed gospel. To whom but to thee should we go for light, when mournful clouds overshadow our way? Thou hast strength for the weak, and a balm for the wounded spirit. In danger thou art our hiding-place and our shield; may we hope in thy word. Thou art good; a stronghold, and a refuge, and nigh to all who are in trouble. Thou canst dry up the mourn-

er's tears; in thee the fatherless may find mercy. Thou hearest those who cry unto thee; and thou hast an eye to pity, and an arm to save. With thee there is comfort for those in sorrow, and consolation for the afflicted.

Our Father, though cast down and desolate, may we still feel thy presence with us. From me thou hast taken the kind friend and partner of my bosom; the sharer in my toils, my joys, and my sorrows; and from these children thou hast taken a tender and affectionate parent. In this mournful event, may we own thy providence, and bow in humble submission to thy will. Help us to show the patience and resignation of thy children and disciples of thy Son. May we be still, and know that thou art God; that thou art wise to know what is best for us, and able and willing to grant it; and that if we trust in thee we shall lack no good thing. Enable us to endure this painful separation without a complaining word or thought. And may this affliction have all its proper influences on our hearts and lives.

While we mourn for the departed, let us not forget to be grateful for the blessings thou hast continued to us so long, and for the many mercies which surround us even now. May we cherish a kind remembrance of the deceased; and may we be instructed by this dispensation to set our affections on things above.

Help the surviving head of this family to discharge the multiplied and arduous duties which this bereavement will demand. Assist thy servant to bring up these children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; and to be a living and daily example to them of virtue and piety. Preserve their lives and their health; and keep them from the evils to which they are now peculiarly exposed. Give to each of us the wisdom, the grace, and support, that we need. May we live in peace and concord, aiding and comforting one another, and walking together as heirs of the grace of life. Whatever trials are before us, may thy grace be sufficient for us.

O pardon all our sins; enlighten our minds with a sanctifying and saving knowledge of thy truth; and confirm us in the faith of the Son of God. May thy spirit and thy peace dwell in our hearts; and inspire us with a hope, which shall be as an anchor to our souls. May we be contented in whatever state thy providence shall place us. Whether we are rich or poor, may we have a treasure laid up in heaven. Whether we are in sickness or in health, may our souls prosper. If we live, may we live unto the Lord; if we die, may we die the death of the righteous, and in the joyful expectation of a glorious resurrection.

We would remember in our supplications all who are in adversity. Compassionate their sufferings, and open to them divine and unfailing sources of consolation. O may the glad tidings of the gospel reach every land, and rejoice every heart; may thy kingdom come, and thy will done on earth as it is done in heav. These our prayers we offer in the name

of him who is the way, and the truth, and the life; by him rendering thanks and ascribing glory to thee forever and ever. Amen.

PRIVATE DEVOTIONS.

For Sabbath Morning.

Welcome, sweet day of rest,
That saw the Lord arise;
Welcome to this reviving breast,
And these rejoicing eyes.

I THANK thee, O Father, for the light of this sacred morning, which reminds me of the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and of all that grace and kindness which thou through him hast manifested to the world. May it be a good and profitable day to my soul. May I so spend it as I shall wish I had spent it, when called to render an account to thee of the use I have made of all my advantages and mercies. May I be alive to all its duties. May I be engaged in reading and hearing thy word; in meditation, prayer, and praise; in exercises of penitence for my sins, and of gratitude for thy goodness; in secret and social worship; in communion with thy saints, and with thee, my heavenly Father. If I

am permitted to visit thy temple, may it be good for me to be there; and wherever I may be, may I remember that thou art present with me; and may I worship thee in spirit and in truth. Amen.

On Entering Church.

Holiness becometh thy house, O Lord, forever.

O God, may I feel thy presence, and see thy light, and be sanctified by thy truth, and filled with thy spirit, and think of thy loving-kindness in the midst of thy temple. May thy servant, who guides us in our devotions, be taught and guided by thee. May I join in all the duties of thine house with a willing and an attentive mind, and a devout heart. Wilt thou accept my prayer and praise. May I hear meekly thy word; and may it do me good, as it doth the upright in heart. Wilt thou grant me such a knowledge of thee, the only true God, and of Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent, that I may inherit eternal life. Amen.

On Leaving Church.

We have thought of thy loving-kindness, O God, in the midst of thy temple.

BLESSED be thy name, O Father, God of truth and of grace, for the privileges and mercies I enjoy. May the instructions of thy word, and the benefit of thine ordinances, be effectual means in thy hands to strengthen my faith, to increase my diligence in well-doing, and to make me grow in grace, and the knowledge of my Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Before Communion.

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall be filled.

O THOU, who art the God and Father of my Lord Jesus Christ, and who hast commanded me to believe, own, and honor thy Son, I desire to be grateful to thee that thou hast made known to me the gospel of

peace, and the way of salvation. I thank thee that I witness the return of another of these sacred and sacramental seasons.

Help me by thy grace and spirit worthily to approach the table of my ascended Lord and Redeemer; and, by partaking of these memorials of his body broken, and of his blood shed for me, to show his death till he come. While I shall eat and drink in remembrance of him, may my heart be filled with love and gratitude to him. May my soul enjoy sweet communion with him. May my desires to resemble and be like him be strengthened. May I so think of his instructions, his labors, his sufferings, his death and burial, resurrection and ascension, that I may feel their transforming and heavenly influence.

Help me so to confess and remember him in this ordinance, and in all his commandments, that he shall confess and remember me as his disciple in the presence of thee, his Father and my Father, his God and my God. Amen.

After Communion.

God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I THANK thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for the truth and mercy thou hast revealed and conveyed to me through Jesus Christ, who came into the the world to save sinners.

I thank thee for this precious opportunity to obey one of his last commands, to commemorate his dying love. O may these privileges remind me of my obligations. May these means of grace be sanctified to my advancement in the spiritual and divine life. Dispose me to walk as Christ walked; and to exercise such a faith in him that I shall be able to overcome the world. May I so imitate him in my dispositions and conduct, that others shall take knowledge of me that I have been with Jesus. O help me to adorn a profession of godliness by a pious, a virtuous, and useful life. Grant that I may have that fellowship with thee,

the Father, and with thy Son, Jesus Christ, that when I depart out of this world, I may be admitted into thy kingdom and temple above, to unite with the general assembly and church of the first-born, in ascribing glory and praise to Him that sitteth on the throne, and to the Lamb forever and ever. Amen.

THE END.

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Forms of morning and evening prayer
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